

Syria re-assured of Soviet backing

MOSCOW (R) — Syrian Vice-President Rifaat Al Assad received pledges of continued Soviet backing for his country at a meeting Tuesday with Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov. Mr. Tikhonov and politburo member Boris Ponomarev praised Damascus in their talks with Mr. Assad, who arrived in Moscow on Monday, the official news agency TASS said. They "highly assessed Syria's role in foiling the designs of imperialism and Zionism and countering the attempts by the United States and Israel to impose on Arab peoples separate capitulatory accords," TASS said. The Soviet officials were quoted as saying Moscow would "continue to render invariable support" to Syria. Moscow supplies substantial military and economic assistance to Syria, its closest ally in the Arab World. TASS said Mr. Assad and Mr. Tikhonov agreed that Washington was to blame for world tension and Israel for the lack of progress towards a Middle East settlement.

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Taiwan to use alternate Saudi port

TAIPEI (R) — Saudi Arabia has agreed to let Taiwanese tankers avoid the risks of sailing in the Gulf by using Yanbu port in the Red Sea for some crude oil shipments, a senior oil company official said Tuesday. Lex Ta-Hai, chairman of the Chinese Petroleum Corporation (CPC), told reporters one CPC tanker would pick up 100,000 tonnes of oil at Yanbu this week and three others were on their way there.

Arens heads for U.S.

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens flew to Washington Tuesday for talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and other American officials. Mr. Arens is likely to discuss the U.S. sale of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Saudi Arabia during his talks. In the past, Israel has consistently opposed the sale of U.S. weapons to its Arab enemies.

Soviets launch 8 satellites

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union Tuesday blasted eight satellites into orbit aboard one booster rocket, TASS news agency reported. It said the satellites, in the Cosmos series, carried scientific equipment for space exploration, but did not elaborate.

Israel begins terrorist trial

JERUSALEM (R) — The first trial in connection with a Jewish anti-Arab underground opened Tuesday when a settler accused of transporting stolen mines used by the group appeared in a Jerusalem court, Israel Radio said. The settler, identified as Noam Einon from the Israeli-held Golan Heights, admitted transporting 50 mines which were later used as raw material for explosives in attacks on Palestinians.

India questions 'terrorist'

NEW DELHI (R) — A special team of intelligence officers is questioning a suspected international terrorist linked with Sikh extremist attacks in the north Indian state of Punjab, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said Tuesday. It said a man arrested four days ago at New Delhi's international airport was suspected of having been employed by unidentified foreign intelligence agencies.

Begin declines to join election list

TEL AVIV (R) — Former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, in seclusion since resigning last autumn, Tuesday declined to join the ruling Likud Party's list of candidates for the general elections in July, state radio reported. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir asked Mr. Begin, 71, to accept the 12th spot of Likud's election list, usually reserved for retired party members. Labour leads Likud, page 2

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Wafd emerges as only opposition in parliament

Ruling party wins Egyptian elections

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak's National Democratic Party (NDP) captured more than 72 per cent of the vote in weekend parliament elections with the centre-right New Wafd emerging as the only one of four opposition parties with seats in the new assembly according to final results announced Tuesday.

Interior Minister Hassan Abu Basha told reporters the NDP gathered 72,987 per cent of the vote for 391 of the 448 elected seats in the 458-member parliament, which will sit for five years.

The New Wafd, the revival of an older party which had been the dominant force in Egyptian politics before the 1952 fall of the monarchy, took 15.11 per cent of the vote for 57 seats.

The New People's Assembly will have the largest number of opposition members of any parliament since the 1952 revolution. The former, 392-member parliament included about 20 opposition party members and independents.

The minister said the Socialist Labour Party (SLP), the left-wing Unionist Progressive Party (UPP) and the rightist Liberal Socialist Party failed to get the eight per cent of the national vote required under electoral rules to qualify for any seats in the assembly.

Mr. Abu Basha said: "A climate of democracy prevailed in all circumstances." But he acknowledged incidents in 88 localities and said "appropriate security measures were taken immediately."

In one election incident, at Luxor in Upper Egypt, a woman

election, commentators said.

The Wafd favours more emphasis on free enterprise than the ruling party — Mr. Mubarak's government is struggling to meet pressing aspirations for a better life among Egypt's 47 millions with a mix of Nasser's socialism and Anwar Sadat's legacy of *infitah* (open door) to foreign investors.

Mr. Serageldin told the television Newsfilm agency Visnews that only 13 of the still-banned Muslim Brothers, who seek *sharia* (Islamic law) in Egypt, stood on Wafd tickets and only two or three were likely to get seats.

"We gave them the opportunity because they had no legal right to have their own party. It is better to give them the opportunity to declare their business in parliament, because closing all opportunities would drive them underground."

UPP officials alleged there had been intimidation and ballot-rigging in 70 per cent of districts. The Wafd said it was comparing its evidence with the UPP and had a list of more than 100 complaints.

Mr. Serageldin said he would consider whether to pursue complaints in the courts after the new assembly is inaugurated.

Interior Ministry sources said that in Gharbia province 20 ballot boxes, found to contain only NDP votes, were impounded in an investigation of Wafd and UPP objections being carried out by the deputy chief of security there, Major-General Gbazi Al Tuhami.

The Wafd said that in one constituency, its own candidate found out he had voted for the ruling party.

Soviet newspapers reflect support for Mubarak, page 2

Karami cabinet to promise free Lebanon, rebuilt army and security

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami's new national unity government will promise to free Lebanon from Israeli occupation, rebuild the army and restore security in a policy statement to be voted on by parliament Thursday. Mr. Karami announced Tuesday.

It was the first official announcement about the contents of the policy statement agreed to by Lebanon's main factional leaders. Mr. Karami's government was expected to easily win the vote of confidence necessary to make the government official.

Beirut's state radio said the government had authorised police controlling the mid-city neighbourhood where the parliament will meet to shoot any militiaman that tries to approach. Parliament Speaker Karami Al Assad had claimed the area, on the "green line" between east and west Beirut, would not be safe unless such an order was given, and threatened to call off the parliament session if it was not forthcoming.

The area around Villa Mansour, where the session will be held, has been the scene of frequent fighting between mainly Christian militiamen and mostly Muslim militiamen and the Lebanese army in recent weeks.

"I have heard a lot of gossip about this cabinet," said Mr. Karami in a statement broadcast live by radio stations. "They say this is a government that came to salvage Lebanon, when it itself needs someone to salvage it."

"They say we have been here for a month and nothing has happened. I accept this criticism, but I also say that we are an unusual government that took over at an extraordinary time and I doubt anyone believes that we can actually build a country on solid foundations in only one month," Mr. Karami said.

He said the policy statement and the main tasks his government will confront are "liberating (Israeli-occupied) south Lebanon... restoring security and consolidating peace according to a comprehensive programme that we are now laying out, rebuilding the army and building a new Lebanon according to a new charter."

Mr. Karami said the cabinet would meet Wednesday at President Amin Gemayel's summer residence in his hometown of Bikfaya, 16 kilometres northeast of Beirut, to prepare for Thursday's session of parliament.

Earlier Tuesday, Mr. Karami had talks with a senior French Foreign Ministry official on how France could help the Lebanese government exercise sovereignty throughout its territory, official sources said.

Marc Bonnefous, director of the French External Relations Ministry's North Africa and Middle East department, arrived here Monday on what he described as a routine visit.

On Monday, Muslim militiamen at the western end of the "museum crossing", a mere 700 metres from Villa Mansour, kidnapped about 15 young men in retaliation for similar abductions in east Beirut, militia officials said.

The police closed the crossing, the only guarded route between east and west Beirut, for two hours until militiamen on both sides released the hostages.

But police in the northern port city of Tripoli said Sunni Muslim militiamen seized 29 people to demand the release of three students they said were taken by rightists on the road to Beirut.

The Tripoli abductors released 18 of them, but said they would only free the remaining 11 in return for the students, police said.

Israel insists on retaining 'Hailson office' near Beirut, page 2

Arens was on spot when murdered commando was caught, photos prove

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — An Israeli newspaper, publishing censored photographs, said Tuesday that Defence Minister Moshe Arens must have seen a Palestinian commando between his capture during a bus hijacking and the time he was beaten to death.

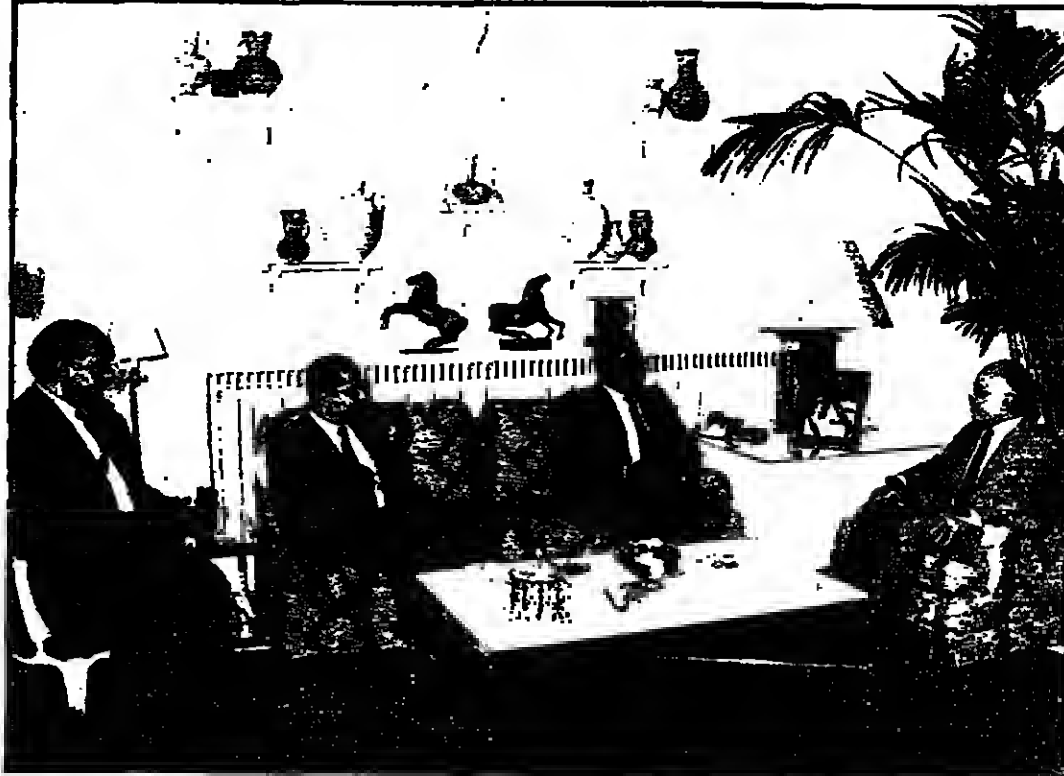
A Defence Ministry investigation, published in part Monday, said two commandos were captured alive and later killed by blows to the head from blunt instrument.

Official reports at the time said that all four hijackers were killed or fatally wounded when troops stormed the bus.

Hadashot newspaper Tuesday printed a series of photographs taken that morning and censored until now.

One picture showed Mr. Arens and some aides standing near the bus. The next picture on the roll showed one of the commandos. Majdi Ahmad Ali Abu Jama, apparently unhurt, being led away by two security men.

The photographer, Alex Libek, said the two pictures were taken seconds apart. "I was standing right next to Arens' group when I took the picture of Jama. It is inconceivable that they did not see what I saw," he said.



KING RECEIVES IRAQI MINISTER: His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday confers with Iraqi Interior Minister Sa'dun Shaker (to the King's right), who arrived on a two-day visit to Jordan Monday, in an audience attended by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obaidat (second from left) and Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Suleiman Arar. The King also hosted a luncheon in honour of the Iraqi

minister. Later on Tuesday, Mr. Shaker, accompanied by Mr. Arar, visited the Public Security Department where its director-general, Lieutenant-General Muhammad Idris, briefed him on the department's functions and services. Mr. Shaker, Mr. Arar and Lt.-Gen. Idris also reviewed issues pertaining to co-operation between Iraqi and Jordanian police departments (Petra photo)

Kharg blockade continues, Iraq says

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi Information Minister Latif Nassif Al Jassam said Tuesday Iraq would maintain its blockade of Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal in the northern Gulf until Tehran responded to appeals to end their war.

Mr. Jassam, quoted by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), also told reporters with visiting Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal the blockade was designed to defend Iraq's security and independence. Iran has said its air force attacked tankers this month in the area of Kharg Island, which lies in an Iraqi-proclaimed war zone in which Baghdad has also reported numerous hits against "enemy naval targets."

Meanwhile, an Iraqi high command communique on ground fighting in the 44-month-old conflict said Iraqi forces destroyed several Iranian infantry positions, an observation post and an ammunition dump in the past 24 hours.

Iranian artillery again shelled the southern Iraqi port of Basra, damaging private property, it added.

Saudi 'offer'

The Iraqi reiteration that it would continue the blockade came amid reports from Tehran that Saudi Arabia has offered to ask Iraq to call off attacks on tankers using the island oil terminal as a means of preventing a widening of the Gulf war.

Reuters quoted informed sources in the Iranian capital as saying the Saudi offer, which carried no guarantees, was delivered to Tehran by Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, who visited the Iranian capital last week following a mission to Damascus by an envoy of Saudi Arabia's King Fahd (See story on page 2).

Although Syria and Saudi Arabia back opposing sides in the war, both are anxious to avoid internationalisation of the conflict and possible American involvement, diplomats say.

U.N. debate

Meanwhile at the United Nations Bahraini foreign minister said Tuesday influential countries were doing too little to try to stop the Gulf war.

The minister, Mohammad Ibn Mubarak Al Khalifa, told the Security Council that the longer the conflict continued, the greater the risk that it would spread.

He called for concerted efforts to end the war and said: "Some influential state are still calling at a distance for a stop to this war, without taking serious steps to halt it."

Masri urges international efforts to end Israel's measures against Palestinians

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri Tuesday called on the United Nations and the international community to seek an end to the arbitrary Israeli practices and violations of human rights of the Palestinian people living in the occupied Arab territories.

Mr. Masri, speaking to a visiting U.N. fact-finding mission which arrived in Amman Sunday, said that Israel is still continuing gross violations of the Palestinian people's human rights despite a number of U.N. reports on the issue and visits of international fact-finding missions as well as all U.N. resolutions condemning the Jewish state's practices.

Mr. Masri pointed out that Israel's ban against the entry of the U.N. fact-finding committee to the occupied territories since its establishment in 1968 proves that the Jewish state is continuing its violations of human rights.

Briefing the U.N. mission, headed by Sri Lanka's representative to the U.N., Nisanco Jordan, on the current situation in the occupied Arab territories, Mr. Masri spoke about Israel's violations of human rights in the educational, cultural, health and living aspects of the Palestinian people under occupation.

The Israeli practices aim at forcing the Arab population to emigrate from their homeland in preparation to Judaize the lands as well as annexing them. Mr. Masri said.

He added that the human aspect of the task of the U.N. committee is interrelated with the political aspect of the Palestinian issue and this requires intensive U.N. efforts to hold and international conference adopted by the world community, but rejected by Israel, to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

The U.N. fact-finding mission, which met Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmoud on Monday, is expected to hold talks with other Jordanian officials before leaving for Syria on Thursday.

Zionists disclose plans to double Jewish population in Jerusalem

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli government has launched a plan to more than double the Jewish population of Jerusalem and its surroundings in the next 25 years while curbing Palestinian growth in the area, a spokesman for a Zionist organisation said Tuesday.

The plan, drawn up by the settlement section of the World Zionist Organisation (WZO), was approved by the Israeli cabinet three years ago but has only now been published.

The organisation, whose members include Zionist groups and other Jewish communities, aids Jewish immigrants into Palestine. Its settlement section is responsible for planning and construction of Jewish groups in occupied territories in collaboration with government departments.

Settlement section spokesman Zev Ben-Yosef told Reuters Tuesday that the plan envisaged increasing the Jewish population from 330,000 to 710,000 in the year 2010.

At the same time, the growth of the Palestinian population, which now stands at 309,000, would be restricted to 469,000.

In an introduction to the report, settlement department chief Matityahu Drobless contends the growth of the Arab population around the city is like a "cancer, spreading its tentacles in every direction."

Mr. Ben-Yosef said the Arab population was growing more through migration into the Jerusalem area from elsewhere on the occupied West Bank than through natural increase.

Palestinian found shot dead near Limassol

LIMASSOL, Cyprus (R) — A Palestinian man was found shot dead at the side of a road near Limassol early Tuesday in the third incident involving Arab residents on this Mediterranean island in the past month.

Police said in a statement they were investigating the killing of the man, named as 36-year-old Abdullah Ahmad Suleiman Al Saadi, found shot in the head 9.6 kilometres east of here.

Police sources said a motive for the slaying was not immediately apparent and that no suspects had been named.

The statement said the body was found by a taxi driver, who chased a car at the scene. After a short drive, two occupants abandoned the vehicle and fled, it added.

In Amman, a Palestinian source said the dead man had been a member of the Syrian-backed Saiga commando group who had gone over to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat.

Stinger missiles arrive in S. Arabia

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Employing his emergency powers, President Ronald Reagan has sent 400 Stinger anti-aircraft missiles and two KC-10 tanker planes to bolster Saudi Arabian defences against attacks on Gulf oil shipments, sources said Tuesday.

Two hundred launchers fitted with short-range Stingers and 20 replacement missiles arrived in Saudi Arabia Monday, a State Department official said. This official and other sources confirmed the dispatch of the missiles on the condition they not be identified.

A formal announcement was expected later in the day. But one official said Mr. Reagan had decided to use his emergency powers to send the missiles so that congressional approval was not needed.

The Saudis, who had requested the Stingers, will pay cash for them. It was also understood that the Saudis have given guarantees the missiles will be safeguarded and will not be transferred to anyone else.

Mr. Reagan has said he would not allow the Gulf to be closed to oil tankers which transport one-sixth of the non-communist world's oil supply through the strategic waterway.

But the administration has made clear that it would rather the Gulf states took care of the threat themselves.

The surface-to-air Stingers, which have a range of 5½ kilometres and are extremely mobile, can be used from patrol vessels to protect tankers in the Gulf.

Iran warns U.S.

Meanwhile, President Ali Khamenei of Iran warned the United States to stay out of the Gulf. IRNA, the official Iranian news agency reported Tuesday.

"If the Americans are prepared to die for nothing and be buried deep in the depths of the Gulf thousands of kilometres from home then let them come. With their faith and spiritual strength our people will fight and resist them victoriously," Mr. Khamenei was quoted by IRNA as saying.

IRNA said the president was addressing Iranian navy and other military and security personnel

Last March the Reagan administration had proposed selling Saudi Arabia 1,200 Stingers. But the proposal was withdrawn from Congress along with one for the sale of 1,613 to Jordan because of opposition from Israel and in Congress.

Because Mr. Reagan is acting under his emergency powers the present sale is not required to go through a 30-day congressional approval process.

The emergency powers allow him to respond immediately to military situations he feels are of urgent national interest.

S. Arabia reportedly satisfied with efforts to ease Gulf tension, page 2

Syria pushes diplomatic shuttle to ease Gulf war

BAHRAIN (R) — Syria Tuesday pressed on with a diplomatic shuttle apparently aimed at easing tension in the Gulf as Iran warned Arab states on the other side of the waterway against backing Iraq in the 44-month-old Gulf war.

Syrian Vice-President Rifaat Al-Assad arrived in Moscow Monday and Tass News Agency said he went straight into talks on the Gulf war with Soviet politburo member Vasily Kuznetsov.

Mr. Assad's trip followed visits to Saudi Arabia and Tehran by two top Syrian officials in recent days after a mission to Damascus by an envoy of Saudi Arabia's King Fahd.

Few details have emerged of the Syrian envoys' talks beyond statements that the visits were aimed at defusing the crisis prompted by recent attacks on Gulf shipping.

At least eight tankers have been hit in the past month. The Gulf states have accused Iran of attacking Saudi and Kuwaiti oil tankers outside the war zone declared by Baghdad in what diplomats see as an Iranian attempt to press Iraq to ease its economic blockade of Iran.

Meanwhile in Tehran, Iranian President Ali Khamenei Monday warned Saudi Arabia and its allies to take a neutral stance in the war.

Addressing the inaugural session of Iran's new parliament, he said: "We do not ask the Gulf states to support us and we do not expect any help except from God and our people. But we ask them to take a neutral position. If they take the opposite position, it is natural they must face the consequences."

Syria, an ideological foe of Iraq, has supported non-Arab Iran in the conflict but receives substantial financial aid from Saudi Arabia, which with its conservative Gulf allies has poured

billions of dollars into Iraq's war effort. Moscow, which last year saw its diplomats expelled from Tehran after Iranian communists were accused of passing secrets to Moscow, has also backed Iraq ideologically and with arms.

President Reagan has offered military aid to keep Gulf oil flowing but diplomatic sources say Syria and Saudi Arabia, which played a key role in bringing Lebanon's warring factions to negotiations, are anxious to avoid U.S. involvement.

Oil and shipping sources say Iran's oil exports have probably dropped below one million barrels a day from 1.8 million earlier this year after Iraqi strikes on tankers using Iran's main Kharg Island oil terminal.

An Iraqi military commander said Iran had completed preparations for a long-awaited ground offensive in southern Iraq and Iraqi troops were ready to meet the enemy.

Turkey, Iraq discuss Gulf war

Meanwhile Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal discussed the Gulf war Tuesday with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The official Iraqi news agency INA did not elaborate on the 90-minute meeting, but Turkey's semi-official Anatolian news agency quoted Mr. Ozal as saying it appeared Baghdad sought an end to its 44-month-old war with Tehran by blockading Iran.

The Anatolian agency received

in Ankara, also quoted Mr. Ozal as saying Iraq was pleased with Turkey's neutral stand in the war. He added that Turkey was the most suitable country to attempt mediation between the warring sides, "but what is important is the suitability of conditions."

Ankara has said it would launch a peace effort if both sides consented, but Iran has refused so far.

The official Iraqi agency said that Mr. Ozal, who arrived in Baghdad on Sunday, also discussed with Mr. Hussein ways of developing bilateral relations.

He has already had talks with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan on the war and economic and commercial cooperation between the two countries.

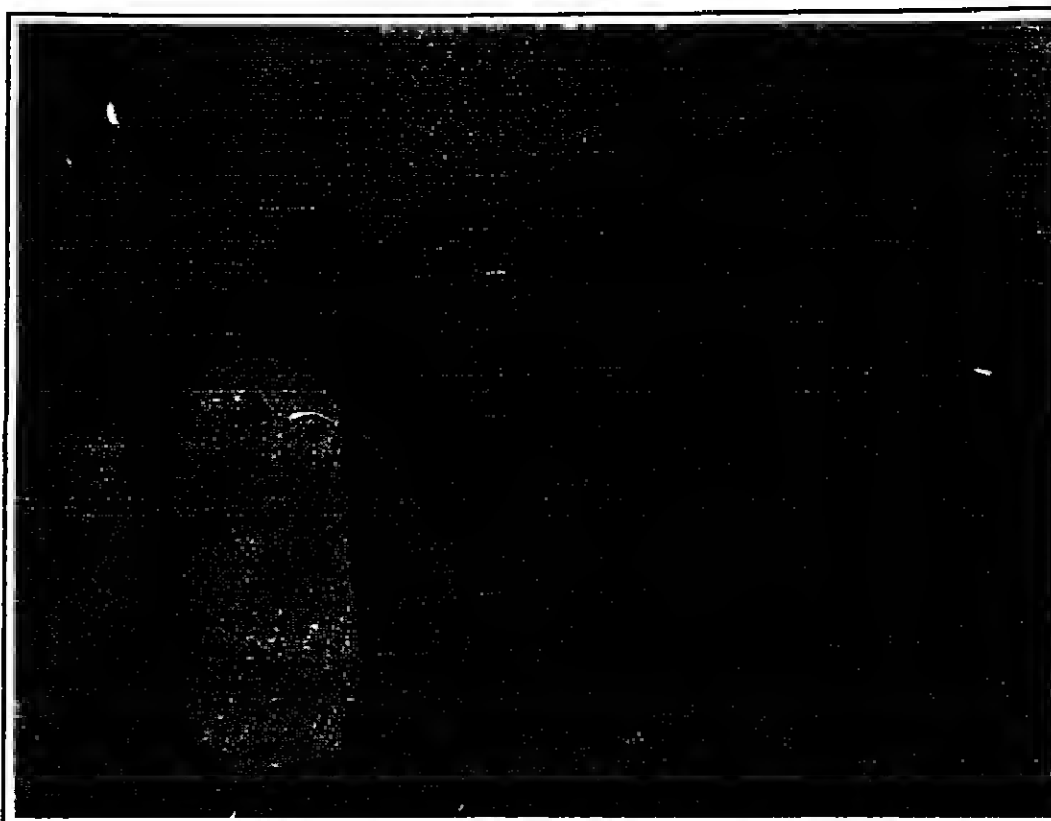
Turkish newspapers quoted Turkish officials as saying Turkish exports to Iraq this year were set to rise to \$900 million from \$319 million last year.

There was a sharp slump in 1983 from \$610 million in 1982 as Iraq's foreign purchasing power was hit by the war. A recovery is already underway with Turkish exports in the first quarter alone this year reaching \$183 million.

The Turkish officials were quoted as saying among items Iraq had agreed to buy were \$110 million worth of iron, \$40 million of sugar, \$20 million of wheat and \$15 million of eggs.

Agreement was reached for Turkey to buy 200 million kilowatts of electricity annually from Iraq, the officials were quoted as saying.

Discussions were also held on building a direct railway link from Turkey to Iraq and on plans to expand Iraq's vital oil pipeline outlet through Turkey from its current level of around 900,000 barrels per day to around one million.



ATTACK ON SHIP: The Saudi Arabian supertanker 'Al Ahoud' shown moored in the Gulf Sunday, its mangled super-structure burnt out after an aircraft hit it earlier this month (AP wirephoto).

Saudi king reportedly satisfied with efforts to defuse Gulf tension

BAHRAIN (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia was quoted Monday night as saying he was satisfied with the outcome of efforts being made to defuse tension in the Gulf.

Information Minister Ali Al Sbaer told the official Saudi News Agency that the king said at Monday night's weekly cabinet session he was satisfied "with the results

of efforts exerted so far to contain the tense situation in the Gulf with the quiet and wise methods adopted by the policies of the kingdom."

The minister also said the king briefed cabinet members on the outcome of his talks with a number of Arab and other envoys on Gulf developments.

Saudi Arabia, among Iraq's str-

ongest supporters in its war with Iran, joined five other Gulf Arab states earlier this month in accusing Iran of attacking Saudi and Kuwaiti-owned tankers in the Gulf.

Senior Syrian officials visited Iran and Saudi Arabia in recent days in an attempt to stop the 44-month-old war from spreading over the entire Gulf.

Israeli Labour Party leads over Likud bloc, poll shows

TEL AVIV (AP) — The opposition Labour Party would be able to form a coalition government with a small majority in parliament if elections were held now, according to a public opinion poll published on Tuesday.

The poll, carried out by the Modi'in Ezrahi Research Organisation for the daily Maariv newspaper, showed that Labour and its expected allies would beat Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc to win 63 seats in the 120-member Knesset.

Likud and its allies now hold 64 seats. Elections are to be held on 23 July. Ms. Ella Heller of Modi'in Ezrahi said in a telephone interview that the poll, carried out during the third week of May, showed that Labour alone would win 52 seats, compared to 39 for Likud.

The margin was the same as in the 53-40 result in the same poll conducted a month earlier. Polls by other research organisations during the last two months have shown similar results.

The pollsters asked 1,150 Jewish voters "if elections were held for the Knesset (now), for which party would you vote?"

Parties expected to support Labour won 11 seats in the poll — the citizens' rights movement, two; the centrist Shinui one seat; the Moscow-aligned Communist Party four seats; and the new "yahad" (together) list formed by former Defence Minister Ezer Weizman, four seats.

The Likud's present allies won 17 seats in the poll — three for the National Religious Party, five for the orthodox Agudat Israel, and three for the Tami faction representing Jews of Middle Eastern and North African origin; and the right-wing Tehiya would win four.

Ms. Heller said "other parties" won enough support between them for one seat, but none reached the necessary one per cent on its own.

The Knesset is elected by direct proportional representation from national lists chosen by the parties, and the distribution of seats closely follows the proportion of the total vote each party receives. There are no constituencies and the voter has no choice of individual candidates.

Traditionally, the leader of the largest party is asked to try to form a government. Since no party has ever won an absolute majority of

the 120 seats, every Israeli government since independence in 1948 has been a coalition.

The poll indicated that Mr. Weizman, who recently returned to politics after resigning as defence minister in 1982, was gaining popularity, as was the nationalist Tehiya.

The poll also showed that the National Religious Party, which has been a partner in every government since 1948, was losing support from its present six seats. Party activists blame the fall on internal disputes still preventing agreement on a list of candidates two days before the lists close.

Despite similar disputes, most other parties have agreed on their election lists in the last three weeks.

Poll results indicated that only 53 per cent of the Israelis who voted Likud last time intended to support Likud again, while 83 per cent of past Labour voters would continue to support Labour.

Pollsters stress that the gap between the two largest parties tends to narrow as the election draws closer, and that poll results two months before the election are unreliable.

UNEP board condemns Israel

AMMAN (Petra) — The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) board, now holding meetings in Nairobi, Kenya has adopted a resolution condemning Israel's projected plan to build a canal to link the Mediterranean with the Dead Sea.

The board said that Israel has ignored a U.N. Security Council resolution calling on it to cancel its plans.

The board calls on Israel to des-

ist from carrying out this aggressive project because of its adverse effects on vital Jordanian installations and as it constitutes a violation of Arab rights in the region, a statement said after the board meeting.

The resolution was supported by 47 nations out of 53 attending the UNEP meetings. The United States was among the countries which opposed the resolution.

Arab council ends meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — A four-day meeting of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) ended in Amman Tuesday.

The meeting attended by deputy permanent delegates to the council, reviewed a report by CAEU's secretary general on the

council's activities over the past six months and discussed an agenda for the 41st meeting of Arab ministers of economy due to be held in Amman on July 18.

Issues related to joint Arab economic action were also discussed at the meeting.

'Levy ordered Palestinian commandos' deaths'

DAMASCUS (R) — A Palestinian commando leader Monday charged Israeli Chief of Staff Moshe Levy with ordering the killing of two Palestinian commandos taken prisoner last month after hijacking a bus in southern Israel.

"The two commandos were beaten to death by orders of Gen. Moshe Levy, contrary to what the Israeli investigation report said," Mr. Bassam Abu Al Sharif, a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) politburo, told Reuters.

"Levy was the field commander who led army and security forces during the operation," he told Reuters.

A summary of the report of an Israeli investigation into the incident released Monday said the two commandos died of blows to the skull inflicted after capture.

It indicated "evidence of violations by individual members of

the security forces" but laid no specific blame for the killings. Mr. Sharif said he also held Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Moshe Arens responsible for the killings because they had given "political instructions" to Gen. Levy. He did not elaborate.

He also condemned the Israeli report for its failure "to state clearly that no negotiations were carried out with the (Palestinian) commandos and that the hijacked bus was suddenly stormed with all passengers on board."

Israeli troops stormed the bus on April 13 after it and 35 passengers had been held overnight by four PFLP guerrillas.

Israeli authorities initially said all four guerrillas were killed in the assault, but later ordered an investigation after a newspaper photograph showed one of them being led away by security forces apparently unharmed.

Mubarak gets high marks from Soviet newspaper

MOSCOW (AP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak received favourable comments Monday in the Communist Party newspaper Pravda, which said the parliamentary elections were fairer than before and that Mr. Mubarak's platform renounced some policies of the late Anwar Sadat.

Pravda said that given the mood in Egypt and the Arab World in general, "all parties without exception put forward a motto calling for normalisation of relations with the Soviet Union." Relations with the Soviet Union were severed

under Sadat but have been steadily improving under Mr. Mubarak.

Pravda said the campaign platform of Mr. Mubarak's National Democratic Party "is remarkably distinguished from the platform worked out in Sadat's time."

"It doesn't mention Sadat's 'corrective revolution' and it suggests the need to introduce corrections in the open-door economic policy and indicates the necessity of state planning," Pravda said.

Libyans plan suicide squads to attack Sudanese training camps

LONDON (R) — Libyan people's congresses have decided to form suicide squads to destroy sabotage and assassination training camps set up in neighbouring Sudan, the Libyan official JANA News Agency said Monday night.

The agency, monitored in London, said that the camps had been

set up by Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri under United States, British and Israeli direction.

It quoted the newspaper Al Zahf Al Akhdar (green march) published by Libya's revolutionary committees as the source for its report.

Israel insists on retaining office

TEL AVIV (R) — The coordinator of Israeli policy in Lebanon said Tuesday the Lebanese government must allow Israel's "liaison office" near Beirut to stay

Turkey sentences 7 to death

ISTANBUL (AP) — A military judge Monday sentenced seven people to death and eight others to life imprisonment for terrorist attacks before the 1980 military takeover in Turkey, a martial law announcement said Tuesday.

It said the defendants belonged to the Istanbul branch of the leftist Turkish workers and peasants liberation army, Tikkun.

Tikkun is believed by Turkish authorities to be linked to the outlawed Turkish Communist Party. The underground organisation was among the six left-wing groups whose activities led to the military coup in September 1980.

The group, in leaflets distributed across Turkey in the pre-coup years, advocated a violent takeover of the government.

open if it wants to negotiate the withdrawal of Israeli troops.

The official, Mr. Uri Lubrani, said the office in Obaiyah north of Beirut was the only way for the two governments to maintain direct contact.

"How can they reconcile their intent to liberate the south from Israel and cutting the only link they have with us? We are not going to accept third party mediation," he said in an interview with Reuters.

Lebanese officials said last Saturday they had asked Israel to close the office, opened in 1982 after Israeli troops invaded Beirut.

It was given official status in the 1983 Lebanese-Israeli troop withdrawal agreement. Its future has been in doubt since Lebanon scrapped the agreement under Syrian pressure two months ago.

Lebanese officials said Prime Minister Rashid Karami asked Israel through the Lebanese-Israeli liaison committee to close the office.

Mr. Lubrani said Lebanese

members of the committee had mentioned it but Israel had received no official request.

Mr. Karami has made the end of Israel's presence in Lebanon a priority for his month-old government.

Syria and Lebanon have acknowledged Israel's need for security arrangements in South Lebanon but say they must be made without Israeli troops.

Israel says it wants to end its presence in Lebanon, but Mr. Lubrani said Beirut had hindered this by reducing to a minimum any contact between them.

He said Israel was prepared to discuss any schemes for security, including periodic visits by unarmed Israelis.

Mr. Lubrani, a former ambassador, said he believed United Nations forces could play an important role in the south as part of the security arrangements.

Israel would like to see the Israeli-backed militia in southern Lebanon weaned away from Israel, and incorporated into Lebanon's armed forces, he added.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL
17:30 Koran
17:40 Cartoons
18:00 Toun Sawyer
19:20 Programme Review
19:30 Agricultural Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:15 Live transmission from Rome: Sweet - Liverpool vs. Rome
22:10 Arabic Series
23:05 News in Arabic
23:10 Series contd.

FOREIGN CHANNEL
18:00 French Documentary
19:00 News in French
19:15 La vie des Autres
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Cowboys
21:00 Documentary: Once upon a Crime
22:30 News in English
23:15 Hotel

RADIO JORDAN
835 KHz. AM & 90 MHz. FM
& partly on 450 KHz. SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News in French
08:00 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
08:05 Morning Show
10:00 Pop Session
11:00 News Summary
12:00 Pop Session
12:05 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Summary
14:10 Instruments
14:30 Oh! Mother
15:00 Concert Hour
16:05 News Summary
16:05 Instruments
16:20 Old Favourites
17:00 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Over a Cup of Tea
18:30 Music
19:00 News Deck
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show
22:00 News Summary
23:00 News Summary
24:00 News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz.
06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Waveguide 06:40
Book Choice 06:45 Financial News
06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News
07:05 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30
What's New 07:45 The World Today
08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Omnibus 08:50
World News 09:00 24 Hours: News
Summary 09:30 That's The Deal 09:45
Report on Religion 10:00 World News 10:30
Reflections 10:15 Poesies Choice 10:30
I'm Sorry I'd Road That Again 11:00
11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial
News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 These
Musical Islands 12:15 Patrick Marry's
Music Box 12:30 The Mutiny and Political
Science of 14:05 Bounty 14:30
Recording of the Week 15:00 World
News 15:30 News about Britain 15:15
World News Short Story 15:30 Merise
Report on Religion 16:30 Middlemarch
17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 Outlook
18:00 World News 18:00 Commentary
18:15 Counterpoint 18:45 The World
Today 19:00 World News 19:00 Monitor
19:25 New Ideas 19:25 Waveguide 19:40
Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30
Top Twenty 21:00 Outlook 21:30 Stock
Market Report 21:45 Look Ahead 21:45
A Treasury of Music 22:00 World News
22:05 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30
Assignment 23:00 London Royal 23:15
World Service Short Story 23:30 Jazz for
the Asking 24:00 World News 00:00 The
World Today 00:25 Book Choice 00:30
Financial News 00:40 Reflections

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260, SW 7200, 9565, 11740,
11925 & 15210 KHz.
06:00 VOA Morning: News on the
hour, news summaries, daily business
report, science and medicine, sports
reports: VOA editorial and world and
U.S. opinion roundups, analysis, vi-
suals, features 17:00 News 17:30 Special
English News and Features 18:00
News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Now Music
USA 19:00 News 19:10 Newsworld 19:30
Special English News and Features
20:00 News 20:10 Focus

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* A collection of paintings and other works of art by local and international artists on show at the Alia Art Gallery, Tel. 664240.
* The Jordanian National Folklore art exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.
* "Festival de Cannes" exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.

FILM

* "Le Destin De Juliette" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.
* "Elio Albeito Reduzio persone" at the Goethe Institute at 8:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre: Tel. 6610267
American Centre 44371
British Council 41520
French Cultural Centre 37093
Goethe Institute 44203
Soviet Cultural Centre 24049
Spanish Cultural Centre 39777
Turkish Cultural Centre 661181
Haya Arts Centre 41793
Y.W.C.A. 664251
Y.W.M.C.A. 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qa'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Middle East, and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mountazah, Jabel Luweibidh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Amman, Tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabel Luweibidh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabel Amman, 41559.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.
St. Epiphanius Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh, 71751.
International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeizani, 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

06:52 Fajr
07:30 Sunrise
11:34 Dhuhr
15:14 'Asr
18:36 Maghreb
20:17 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia Information Department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 53259, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:00 Cairo (MS)
06:10 Karachi (PK)
08:05 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (EK)
09:30 Agaña (RJ)
09:40 Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Cairo (RJ)
11:05 Muscat, Bahrain (KLM)
14:40 Kuwait (KU)
14:50 Bucharest, Laraca (RD)
15:00 Jeddah (SV)
17:00 Rio de Janeiro, Lisboa (IA)
17:10 Paris, Damascus (AF)
17:18 Athens (RJ)
17:35 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
17:35 London, Paris (RJ)
17:48 New York, Amsterdam, Geneva (RJ)
18:00 Rome (RJ)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:35 Bangkok (RJ)
20:05 Cairo (MS)
20:10 Laraca (CY)
20:15 Jeddah (SV)
06:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:45 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:10 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
06:35 Istanbul, New York (RJ)
07:00 Cairo (MS)
07:15 Agaña (RJ)
08:30 Athens (OA)
09:00 Damascus, Rome (Alitalia)
09:40 Karachi (PK)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:30 Athens (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30 Laraca, Zurich (SR)
14:50 Cairo (RJ)
15:40 Rome (RJ)
16:00 Jeddah (SV)
18:00 Baghdad (IA)
19:30 Kuwait, Doha (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
19:45 Dhahran (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:15 Baghdad (RJ)
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
20:45 Cairo (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Chernigov 22090-3
— Slove Transport 37777
— Asian Eagle 59841
— Vistula Vilas 23024
— Abu Elahab 36140
— Hual Tracer 66171-4
— Crimcham 84585
— Kotia Cempak 66171-4
— Miere Iren

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local currency rates in J.S.
Belgian franc 77.8/ 78.2
Dutch guilder 122.6/ 123.3
Egyptian pound 323.5/ 326.3
French franc 44.9/ 45.2
Iraqi dinar 358.5/ 362.3
Italian lire (for 100) 22.3/ 22.5
Japanese yen (for 100) 163.2/ 164.2
Kuwaiti dinar 127.5/ 129.6
Lebanese lira 63.1/ 64
Omani rial 109.6/ 1100
Qatari riyal 103.5/ 104.2
Saudi riyal 107.2/ 107.7
Swiss franc 76.8/ 77.1
Syrian lira 51.6/ 52.8
U.A.E. dirham 102.9/ 103.3
U.K. sterling pound 253.1/ 256.2
U.S. dollar 378.5/ 380.5
W. German mark 138.2/ 139

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will continue to be hot. Light and variable winds will be changing to easterly moderate at times. In Aqaba, it will be dusty with northerly moderate winds and sea calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C:
Amman 16/33
Aqaba 25/40
Dahra 14/24
Jordan Valley 18/38
Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 32, Aqaba 38. Humidity readings: Amman 20 per cent, Aqaba 15 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
Fire, fire, police 75121
Blood

World Bank loan to finance water projects

AMMAN (PETRA) — The cabinet yesterday endorsed an agreement with the World Bank to finance a \$30 million loan to Jordan's Foreign Minister Taher al-Faraj to empower Jordan's water sector. The agreement is the loan agreement on the Jordanian government.

The loan is to finance 50 per cent of the water and sewerage projects in Ramtha, Mafrag, Anjoun, Di Kufuneh, Madaba and Ma'an.

The loan was agreed upon in Amman last month by a team from the National Planning Council and the Jordanian Water Authority (JWA).

Mr. Mohammad Keilani, JWA's director-general, said that the projects to be carried out include the building of sewerage networks, wastewater treatment plants and improvements to existing water networks in Jordanian towns.

Work on the project, which is expected to cost a total of \$60 million, will start early in 1985 after studies have been completed and designs drawn up, Mr. Keilani said.

Minister attends community college student graduation

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Alia attended at the Palatine Tuesday afternoon graduation ceremony for the 1st class of Jordanian Community College students.

Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh made a speech welcoming the Queen to the ceremony and outlining the college's development and programmes.

The ceremony was also attended by Minister of Education Hikmat Al Saket and other officials.

NEWS IN BRIEF

awabdeh announces Ramadan hours

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh announced Tuesday that the municipality departments will function from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. except for Thursday when the hours will end at 2:00 p.m. throughout the month of Ramadan. He also said that refuse collectors and street cleaners will work from seven in the morning until midnight in three shifts.

Seven killed in road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — Seven people were killed and 133 injured in 211 road accidents which occurred throughout the country in the last week, according to Public Security Department officials. Of these accidents, 146 occurred in the Amman Governorate.

Amman to attend Islamic cities talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has chosen the delegation to attend the Amman Municipality at the three-day third general conference meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Cities scheduled to be held in Ankara on July 16. The three-member delegation will be led by the deputy mayor of Amman, Ismail Al Mouta. The delegation will also participate in a seminar on using Islamic cities to be held there as part of the conference meetings.

Literary relations with India discussed

AMMAN (J.T.) — Director-General of the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLNA) Ahmad Sharaka discussed with Indian Ambassador in Amman Dr. Lal Santoshi Tuesday bilateral relations especially in literary affairs. Also discussed was the possibility of India participating in the forthcoming book exhibition which will be organised during the third Jerash festival later on this summer.

Light celebration party returns

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian delegation which was on the inaugural flight by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline from Amman to Singapore, returned home Tuesday. The celebrations held last Friday in Singapore included a joint press conference by Alia, Singapore Airlines officials, Jordanian folklore troupes were presented at the celebrations by the Alia Folklore group. The Jordanian delegation, which included a number of artists, visited tourist sites and development projects during the trip.

Independence Day exhibitions opened

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Development Abdul Salam al-Faraj Tuesday opened a bazaar at the Zarqa sports culture club in the course of the country's independence day celebrations. The bazaar, organised by chivalry and voluntary societies in the Zarqa region, will display for days paintings, national costumes and various items used by Bedouins, as well as embroidery, dresses, artificial flowers and a variety of foods and sweets.

Also to mark the country's Independence Day, Public Security Director Mohammad Idris Tuesday opened a new police station on the Desert Highway to offer security services to nearly 150,000 inhabitants, mostly Bedouins, in the region.

He also opened a new police post for licensing trucks on the Amman-Zarqa highway.



Minister of Social Development Abdul Salam al-Faraj Tuesday opens a charitable bazaar at the

sports and culture club in the city of Zarqa (Photo by Yousef Al-Ahlan)



Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub views the newly renovated Civil Service Consumer Corporation shop which was reopened Tuesday (Petra photo)

Civil service run shops to stock more locally produced commodities

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub said Tuesday that the Civil Service Consumer Corporation (CSCC) will increase its purchases of home produced goods and thus put more on sale in its retail outlets to encourage local production in the country.

The minister was speaking at the opening ceremony of the

CSCC branch at Abdali which has recently been enlarged.

Last year, the CSCC purchased JD 2.25 million worth of national products and this figure will be increased in the future, the minister said.

In reply to a reporter's question, Mr. Ayyoub said that the Ministry of Supply has the intention of opening a third CSCC branch in

Amman once suitable premises have been found, but denied reports that it intends to open new branches in other governorates at present.

Mr. Ayyoub later toured the various sections of the branch and inspected the different products on sale.

Senior officials also attended the opening ceremony.

Nabulsi gives village council guidelines

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Nabulsi announced at Deir Alla in the Jordan Valley that his ministry is willing to establish village councils for settlements of no less than 400 people, and will upgrade village councils that have been functioning for upwards five years and which offer services to at least 2,500 people into municipal councils.

The minister was speaking at a meeting with heads of village councils in the Jordan Valley attended by Dr. Munther Haddadin, the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) director-general.

At the meeting issues pertaining to the duties of village councils and their relation with the ministry were discussed and it was agreed that the ministry should continue for the time being to operate the financial affairs of the

eight village councils in the region in co-operation with the JVA.

The JVA for its part will take over the authority of organising plans for the development of lands

and construction operations in the Jordan Valley region and the demarcation of village boundaries as well as distributing housing units to beneficiaries.

Aqaba bachelor housing, transit centre deal signed

AMMAN (Petra) — A consortium of two local firms signed an agreement here Tuesday to build a housing estate for unmarried workers in Aqaba.

The agreement, signed with the Aqaba Regional Authority (ARA), provides for the establishment of housing units for 3,000 workers, to be equipped with basic services, and a transit centre to house workers on their way into or out of Jordan via the port of Aqaba.

The centre, which will be able to accommodate 1,000 workers, will

have a health centre, a police station and is to be completed within nine months, according to the terms of the agreement.

Also under the agreement, the two companies will supervise the management of the workers' estate for 12 months after which the managerial responsibilities will be taken over by the ARA.

The agreement was signed by representatives of the local companies and the ARA Director-General Mohammad Sa'id Abu Nowar.

Tal returns from UNESCO meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) general conference for the present year Sa'id Al Tal returned home Saturday after taking part in a meeting of the UNESCO executive council held in Paris.

Dr. Tal said that the council discussed the threatened U.S. withdrawal from UNESCO and a memorandum submitted by the

British government regarding the improvement of administrative procedures at UNESCO among other subjects.

During the session, the executive council formed a committee to study ways of developing the work of UNESCO. The committee will present its recommendations to the next session of the executive council, Dr. Tal added.

In his opening speech of the session, Dr. Tal denounced the recent arson at the UNESCO headquarters saying that UNESCO is a human heritage and all people from all countries of the world benefit from its big services.

Dr. Tal also called on the U.S. government to reconsider its decision to withdraw from the organisation and not to take such action until it has exhausted all alternatives.



Sa'id Al Tal

Michel Andrieu talks about his work as part of the French Film Festival

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Among the films shown here at the Royal Cultural Centre as part of the French Film Festival was "Bastien, Bastienne" which tells the story of a family living during World War I.

The time is 1916, the place a vast domain not far from the front-line and two women, Catherine and Suzanne, live together with their children: Yves, Eric and Jean-Charles all round 12-years-old.

George, Catherine's husband, is at war. Paul, Catherine's brother and Suzanne's husband, has just been killed in combat. The two sister-in-laws get on badly with each other while the two maids in the house, Georgette and Marie, seem always also to be on bad terms with each other.

As the thunder of war draws closer to the tranquil house, the children work feverishly on their theatrical presentation "Bastien and Bastienne", a minor opera written by Mozart when he was their age.

Unremittingly they rehearse in the park, aside a small lake, a dilapidated grange serving as a backdrop. When at last they are ready, the war is virtually at their door. Their first performance is their last, for now they must leave the house.

Director and script-writer of the film Michel Andrieu — currently on a visit to Jordan on an invitation from the Jordanian Cine-Club — said that the children in the film, through rehearsing the Mozart opera, discover life, love, sex and death.

Finding the three boys for the film was the toughest job for Mr. Andrieu. "I saw 2,000 boys in a period of five months" before deciding which were suitable for the role," he said.



A scene from the film "Bastien and Bastienne" the director and screen-writer of which is currently on a visit here (J.T. file photo)

The director faced difficulties in choosing the three boys because they had to be free from school and able to learn opera as well as knowing how to act.

The film, which took one year to finish at a cost of 3.5 million French francs, was shot in the Loire, some 200 kilometres south of Paris.

"We had to reset the whole scene" with the help of art director Hilton McConico, he said.

Mr. Andrieu, who held a press conference Tuesday, said that one of the most difficult scenes to shoot during the film was of the boys in the opera in boats on the lake. He explained that divers had to push the boats from underneath.

"It used to rain sometimes while shooting and more than once we suffered a blackout of electricity," he said.

The one-hour 45-minute film was commercially a success according to Mr. Andrieu, "although without a large audience," he added. "It all depends sometimes on the way the film is launched on the market and on the decision of the film distributing agency," he continued.

JEA commissions study on building opportunities

Engineers body moves to curb W.Bank unemployment

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA) Tuesday asked its branch in the Israeli occupied West Bank to conduct a study on practical ways of curbing unemployment there.

A senior official at the JEA told the Jordan Times that around 150 out of the 450 engineers in the West Bank are unemployed.

Inflation and difficult economic condition, which have caused a recession in the construction industry, are believed to be the main reasons behind the high rate of unemployment among engineers in the West Bank.

But, according to JEA President Ibrahim Abu Ayash, the fact that young Palestinian engineers cannot work in Jordan and the Gulf countries due to travel restrictions issued by the Jordanian government last year has also aggravated the unemployment crisis.

The unemployed engineers might be forced either to emigrate or to work in Israel," he said adding that these "are the two options we are trying to prevent."

To prevent emigration and to help cut unemployment the JEA general assembly adopted a number of resolutions during its bi-annual meeting here last February.

The resolutions included a call to engineering and consultancy offices in the East Bank not to undertake design work for projects in the West Bank and to leave it to similar offices there.

The JEA also asked its branch in the West Bank to suggest commercial, housing or even industrial projects which the JEA can finance and that will provide work opportunities for West Bank engineers.

It has also asked its branch to investigate the possibility of municipal and rural councils hiring more engineers to work on ser-

vices provided in towns and villages there.

JEA officials explained to the Jordan Times that the association is ready to help in paying the salaries of the West Bank engineers. The necessary funds finance construction projects and to pay engineers salaries in the West Bank are provided from engineers' contributions and other Arab engineering associations.

"All members of Arab engineering associations are supposed to donate \$10 annually to support the steadfastness of engineers in the West Bank," the officials said.

The problem, however, is that up until now the JEA has not received a report on potential new construction projects in the West Bank and the municipalities' ability to offer jobs to engineers from its West Bank branch.

Consequently, the JEA has called on its West Bank branch promptly to provide the report in order to enable the JEA to start implementing practical measures to help curb unemployment among engineers in the West Bank.



Minister of Telecommunications Muhammad Addoub Al Zaben cuts the tape Tuesday to open the new telephone exchange at Jabal Ashrafieh here (Petra photo)

New telephone exchange heralds expansion of urban, rural lines

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Communications Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben inaugurated Tuesday a new electronic telephone exchange at Jabal Ashrafieh in Amman.

The new exchange, which has a capacity of 20,820 lines, constitutes the first phase of a wide ranging project to increase the number of lines available to urban and rural regions and carried out in implementation of a protocol

agreement between Jordan and France, according to Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Director Mohammad Shaded Ismail.

The second stage of the project will be to install a similar exchange with a capacity of 29,130 lines in Zarqa by the end of the coming month, Mr. Ismail said.

At the inauguration ceremony, Dr. Zaben made a speech in which he paid tribute to the French gov-

ernment for helping to finance the project and expressed his appreciation for efforts exerted by Jordanian technicians and engineers.

A total of 112,000 lines will be made available when the current project is completed, the minister said.

The ceremony was attended by French ambassador to Jordan Jacques Alain de Sedouy and TCC officials.

At a moment when THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN is celebrating the 38th year of its independence,

THE FRENCH TELECOMMUNICATION CONSORTIUM
CIT-ALCATEL - TRT - CABLES DE LYON

has the honour to congratulate
His Majesty King Hussein

on the occasion, and is proud to announce the inauguration of a telephone exchange in Ashrafieh, the 29th May, 1984.

This exchange represents the first stage of the implementation of a modern telecommunication integrated digital network. The French Consortium is honoured to contribute to the realisation of this important project, for which the most advanced techniques is used and which will cover the northern part of Jordan, for a total of 112,000 subscribers.

The E 10 B Exchange inaugurated on the 29th May, 1984 is a time division system, a field where CIT-ALCATEL is the worldwide leader. The E10B Exchanges are operated together with an advanced digital transmission network implemented by TRT and CABLES DE LYON.

Jordan Times

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Israel's new-old plan

A PLAN has just been published in Israel aimed at more than doubling the Jewish population of Jerusalem and its surroundings in the next 25 years, while curbing Palestinian growth in the area. The plan envisages increasing the Jewish population from 330,000 to 710,000 by the year 2010. The new plan, which is designed to encircle Jerusalem with colonies, does not reveal any novelty with regard to Israel's intentions and its expansionist designs. The Israelis have been continuously working to change the character of the Holy City and Judaea since they occupied the West Bank in 1967. The measures they have been adopting vary from burning, to demolishing homes and evicting people from their land and obliterating the Arab cultural identity and Islamic and Christian holy shrines.

The new thing about this plan, however, is the reference to the geographic area which the new project will cover and the network of colonies that will be built around it.

The plan envisages extending Jerusalem's boundaries northward as far as Beit Feel (the Arab town of Beitin) and southward to Kfar Asyoun, between Bethlehem and Hebron. Eastward the boundaries will extend to as far as Al Khan Al Ahmar near Jericho. This means that the Israeli government actually intends to Judaize the whole central part of the West Bank, because, according to the plan, the boundaries of Jerusalem will be moved to almost 20 kilometres north of the city reaching to a point north of the Arab town of Ramallah on the road to Nablus. Also the Kfar Asyoun region lies some 20 kilometres south of the Holy City.

If the new plan is to be implemented, nearly 60 Arab towns and villages will be included within the Jerusalem area in addition to six refugee camps lying within this densely populated Arab region. These camps, that lie between Nablus in the north and Hebron in the south, are: Duheishe, Al 'Arroub, Sbi'fat, Kalandia, Al Am'ari, and Qadoura.

The plan, which clearly displays Zionist designs, is to be implemented under the slogan of "strengthening the status of Jerusalem as Israel's capital."

In presenting the plan the World Zionist Organisation, which is in charge of Jewish immigration into Palestine, contends that "the Arab population around the city is like a cancer spreading its tentacles in every direction. We are involved in a race against time to settle Jewish people in the land around the city."

Here, it is important to remember that the Likud government has linked the implementation of this plan with the current election campaign to make it look as if it is a mere campaign to win electoral support in the coming election which public opinion polls indicate will be in favour of the opposition Labour Party. However, and despite these predictions, the Likud leaders are going ahead with plans until the last moment to create a de facto situation in the Arab lands which will be impossible to change.

The present Likud government is actually following a course of a general expansionist and aggressive plan independent from the inter-party disputes and which aim at fulfilling Zionist dreams of establishing the "land of Israel." All parties in Israel, regardless of the differences that might appear from time to time, agree that this dream has to be fulfilled.

The opposition Labour Party has adopted a separate policy line for the establishment of settlements in the occupied Arab territories called "the Allon plan." This plan, though at present does not favour establishing Jewish colonies in densely populated Arab regions, does not mean that the Labour Party is not interested in carrying out plans for gobbling up the major part of the occupied Arab territories.

These are facts that have to be seen in their proper perspective now, and thought about carefully for the future.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Iran threatens Gulf states

THE IRANIAN president Monday issued a warning to the Arab countries in the Gulf region not to interfere in the war and to remain neutral. He said that Arab states helping Iraq will be made to face the consequences.

Tehran understands neutrality not only in neutralising the role of Arab states or forcing them to refrain from helping Iraq in any way, but rather in supporting the Iranian regime against Iraq, though Iran's aims and objectives might be to control the whole Gulf region and impose its will over its states.

Such a stand and such a warning to the Gulf states require from all Arab states to consider taking a joint action against the common enemy, who is demanding from the Arabs not to defend themselves or to help their brethren. Iran is demanding from the Arabs to yield their independence and succumb to its terms and dictates. No doubt, indifference displayed by certain Arab states towards what is happening in the Gulf and collusion on the part of others with the Iranian regime against their nation and Iraq have encouraged the Iranian aggressors to pursue their expansionist designs and their aggression on Iraq. Had the Arabs been united, or at least in agreement on a unified strategy with which to confront external threats, the Iranians would not have been able to continue their war on Iraq, nor would they have issued threats to the Arabs.

Arab leaders ought to have realised by now that the Iranians have designs that go beyond Baghdad or Basra, and they ought to take effective action if they really want to safeguard their countries' independence and their freedom.

Al Dustour: Intimidation attempt

FROM THE start of the Gulf war, Arab states in the region have been supporting Iraq against the Iranian aggressor and will continue to do so as long as it takes to convince the Iranians of the need to end the conflict.

No doubt the leaders of the Gulf states will ignore threats by Tehran's regime against their assistance to Iraq or taking part in the war. They realise that their support for Iraq is in defence of themselves and their independence. The Iranian leaders must be naive indeed in demand from the Arabs to stay out of the war and remain impassive as to the aggression being waged on their brothers in Iraq and the Gulf.

The warning, issued by the Iranian president to the Gulf states to refrain from helping Iraq, was intended to justify Iraq's attacks on shipping in the Gulf, and comes prior to a reported imminent offensive on Iraq. The attack on Saudi and Kuwaiti tankers is no less serious than the attack on Iraqi territory, and, therefore, the Arabs in the region should be ready to thwart further attacks and foil Iranian aims and objectives in that region.

The leaders of the Gulf states are now aware of Iran's expansionist designs and the other Arab states ought to help them repel aggression and restore peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: Jordan's real fortune

IN A L. his speeches on various national occasions, King Hussein chooses to underline the importance of safeguarding the interests of the citizens as they constitute the most precious thing in the country. All Jordan's institutions, its universities and educational centres have been geared to improve the standard of education and to raise the social and economic level of the citizens, in implementation of the King's directives.

King Hussein, in praising these institutions, called also for more efforts so that the citizens of this country can absorb modern technology and sciences so that they can help the coming generations confront the challenges of the future.

PLO envoy's testimony raises furor in Canada

By Muhammad Azhar Ali Khan

THE UPROAR caused by the testimony of Zehdi Terzi, the permanent observer of the Palestine Liberation Organisation at the United Nations, before the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee of Canada raises many questions which both Palestinians and Canadians ought to think about.

These relate to the PLO's covenant, the double standards of the Western countries, the role of the West in searching for peace in the Middle East, and the long-term prospects for the area.

Terzi was extremely pleased with his testimony at the committee. This is the first time that a PLO dignitary had been allowed to make a formal presentation of his organisation's case to a parliamentary committee in North America. Not only that, Terzi was invited and given the red-carpet treatment by the Senate committee.

The invitation created a furor among Canadian politicians and media. So the Senate committee — and Terzi — became the focus of full media attention — something the committee had not attained during the two years that it had conducted the hearings in Canada — or on its trips to the Middle East.

A PLO officials is currently based in Ottawa, but he is a part of the Arab League Information Office and does not enjoy official recognition.

Some Canadian politicians and media sharply attacked the invitation to Terzi. Others defended it. But mostly the decision was defended on the grounds that Canada should listen to both sides — not because the PLO is seen here as being kept for peace.

Said Israeli Ambassador to Canada Eliashiv Ben-Horin: "This organisation (PLO) is sworn to the destruction of a state with which Canada enjoys cordial relations. No matter what the int-

ention of the hosts, the PLO has drawn aid and comfort from this invitation, and sees it as vindication of its assumption that it can commit daily murder with international impunity.

The ambassador's statement was self-serving. It would have carried moral weight if the Israeli government had extended a band of peace to the Palestinian people and offered to recognise their just aspirations on a mutual basis.

But whatever Israel's own record towards the Palestinians and the Lebanese — and it has been censured by most countries of the world — the picture the envoy drew of the PLO is one that is commonly perceived in North America, partly because of the imbalance of the coverage of the Middle East.

However evil the Israeli attack on Lebanon in 1982, it produced one good result, though at exorbitant human cost. It caused enormous revulsion in Israel among many people. Some soldiers and officers refused to fight in Lebanon. Hundreds of thousands came out on the streets against the war in Lebanon. For the first time, many Israelis began to question the repulsive use of brutal force by their government — at a time when genuine efforts to find a just and lasting solution might have produced the desired results.

Many Israeli speakers in North America, who are unhappy with the policies of their government, the direction their society is taking and appalled over the sufferings inflicted by their U.S.-armed government on the Palestinian and Lebanese people, have made this point repeatedly in their speeches. The Arabs should not consider all Israelis to be followers of the extremists, fanatics and fundamentalists. They should distinguish those who wish to have genuine and lasting peace.

Much the same point has been in private discussions by a group of Canadian members of parliament, part of the Canada-Arab par-

liamentary committee, who have visited the Middle East, including Arab countries, the occupied territories and Israel and who have conferred with Israelis and Arabs, including PLO leader Yasser Arafat, and Syrian and Iraqi leaders.

Their clear impression is that the Arabs are reasonable and are not only willing but keen to live in peace with Israel, provided their own rights are respected. (Terzi made the same points to the committee). But the PLO co-opts and occasional attacks against civilians go against the Arabs' own desire for an accommodation and play to hands of the Israeli extremists.

The MPs who have been criticised in this country for being even-handed, say candidly that the PLO can no longer afford the luxury of saying to Israel, "After you," and playing the diplomatic game of expecting the other side to move first. The Israeli government won't make that first move because it is content with the status quo and is continuing to build or expand settlements.

The PLO must itself take the initiative, they say, by amending its covenant, calling off these self-defeating and morally indefensible attacks against civilians, and declaring that it is willing to recognise Israel on a reciprocal basis.

That would put the burden on the Israeli government to reciprocate. It would strengthen those in Israel who are appalled at the casualties the Israelis suffered in Lebanon in a war that was neither moral nor justified and who feel that Israel's creaky economy can only be strengthened effectively if it were not burdened by the heavy load of defense expenditure. It would strengthen those people in the West who feel that Israel must make genuine efforts to achieve peace with its neighbours.

But the PLO's covenant notwithstanding, the uproar in Can-

ada clearly showed the hypocrisy and double standards that are often used by the politicians and the media in the West on the Middle East.

Some of them said that the PLO is not the elected representative of the Palestinian people. But Canada recognises dozens of countries whose governments have not been elected by their own people. And the question raises the more basic question: When were the Palestinian people given the chance to have a free vote and determine who their representatives are?

Former Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations William Bartoo told the Canadian senators at one point that the PLO is "effectively the only body capable of speaking on behalf of the Palestinian community."

Said he: "We may argue that its claim to do so had not been tested by any sort of elective procedure, but in fact it is generally acknowledged that very few Palestinians would choose outside the PLO, even if given a free choice."

Terzi the senators that a recent poll in the West Bank showed that 94.6 per cent of Palestinians there viewed the PLO as their sole representative — a point that visiting Israeli newspaperman Amos Kapeliuk had made in Ottawa sometime earlier.

So the issue in the West is not whether the PLO is elected or not, though it does have an elected supreme body, but its record of occasional terror.

Here, too, those who wanted to deny Terzi the invitation, or even a visa to enter Canada, exposed their own ignorance about the Middle East or much worse, their hypocrisy and double standards.

What they overlook is that, at the time of the Balfour Declaration in 1917, these Palestinians constituted 92 per cent of the country's population and they owned 94 per cent of its property.

That these people, by any int-

ernational standards, should have been given the right of self-determination in their own traditional homeland. But that they were denied such a right.

Arabs and Israelis differ vehemently on whether the Palestinians who left what became Israel during the 1948 war did so at the advice of Arabs in other countries or under Israeli terror. But, whatever the case, it is normal for people to move out of their homes during a war. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognises, however, their right to return home. And this right has been denied to the Palestinian people persistently.

This, however, is ancient history. It is useful only in order to get a balanced picture and an objective understanding of the evolution of the problem.

Far more important is the question — what happens now? Are the Palestinians and the Israelis willing to search for a lasting peace? Or are they going to exchange accusations and keep fighting forever with death, suffering and human agony multiplying on both sides?

Those who see the Middle East through blinkered eyes and only blame the PLO, and condone Israel's invasion of Lebanon and frequent pounding of Palestinian targets, actually are obstructing a determined search for peace in the Middle East.

Those who plead for ostracising the PLO and unquestioningly lauding and aiding the Israeli government, and ignoring the Israeli role in obstructing peace, through such actions as building settlements in the occupied territory and rejecting the Reagan peace plan, are creating hurdles in the path of a hunt for peace in the Middle East.

They are also, in effect, deceiving themselves and others by looking at only one side of the picture and ignoring the rest. It was asserted, for example, that the

Senate committee did not hear the Israeli view-point or did not take testimony from any representative of the Israeli government.

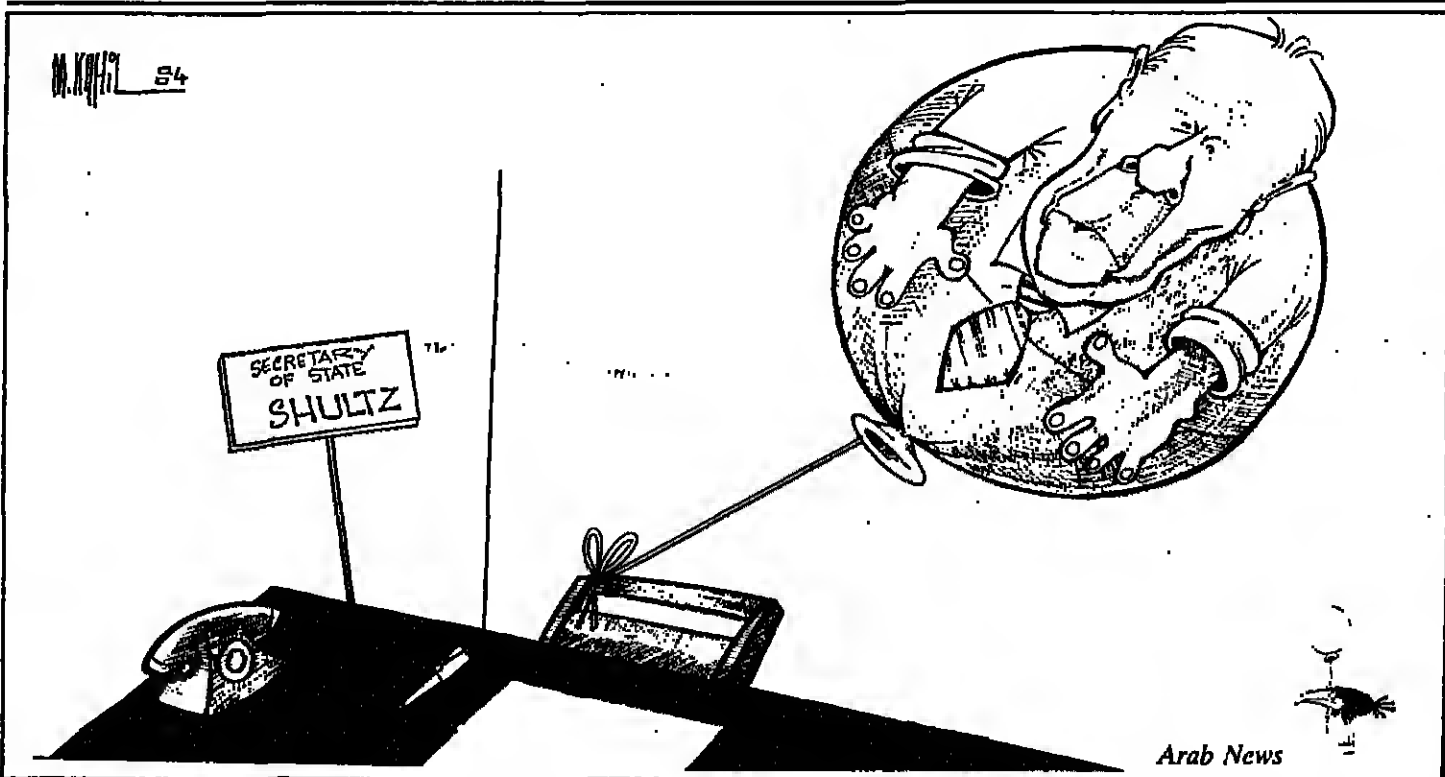
But Senator George C. Van Rogen, chairman of the committee, wrote a letter to Terzi. In that letter, the senator said the subcommittee, comprising more than half of the full committee, had visited the Middle East, including Israel. It had met key Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, the speaker of the Knesset, the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Relations Committee, the mayor of Jerusalem and numerous others.

In Ottawa, the committee heard witnesses from the Canada-Israel Committee, the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce, Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, and Dr. Irwin Cotler, immediate past president of the Canadian Jewish Congress. The committee also had said it would invite the Israeli ambassador to speak, if he agreed to come. But the former ambassador declined.

Yet some politicians and media in Canada said the committee should not have heard Terzi and that the Canadian government should not even have issued him a visa.

Apart from being in complete contradiction with Canada's stated policy of fairness, such an approach can only encourage the extremists who wish to see force as the weapon to use in the Middle East, and discourage those Israelis and Arabs who wish to see a peaceful settlement and an end to human suffering.

A letter in a Canadian paper summed up the situation by saying that those who wish to give blind support for Israel are as much to blame for the violence and stalemate in the Middle East as those in Israel who refuse to negotiate with the Palestinians and who wish to rely on force instead to have their way. — Arab News, Jeddah.



Hard times for Spain's African ties

By Pascal Fletcher Reuter

MADRID — Spain's troubled links with its former West African colony of Equatorial Guinea have reached a crossroads as the tiny, impoverished African state struggles to recover from the devastation of a bloody 11-year dictatorship.

Nearly five years after a military coup toppled dictator Francisco Macias Nguema and ended his isolationist regime, trade ties with Spain have reached a new low and the pocket-sized Spanish-speaking territory entered last December into an economic grouping with its Francophone neighbours.

The move, coupled with attempts by Spain's Socialist government to rationalise its aid programme to Guinea, sparked right-wing allegations in Spain that Madrid was abandoning links with the former colony which gained independence in 1968.

"Goodbye to Equatorial Guinea?" asked a recent editorial in the right-wing Spanish newspaper Ya.

"The policy of the Spanish government is not to abandon Equatorial Guinea," Salvador Bermudez de Castro, head of the Spanish aid programme, told Reuters in an interview.

Spain's presence in West Africa dates from 1778, when it gained control of the Gulf of Guinea from Portugal. Equatorial Guinea lies just north of the Equator and consists of the island of Bioko and the larger mainland territory of Rio Muni.

Disagreements over who should control the aid supplied by Spain and a row over the fate of a co-ordinated coup plotter has strained relations between the two countries recently and this has been accompanied by a dramatic drop

in trade. Spanish exports to Guinea totalled \$50 million in 1981 as exporters rushed to cash in on what they saw as a lucrative market opened up by the 1979 coup which overthrew Mr. Macias and brought his nephew Teodoro Obiang Nguema to power.

Under Mr. Macias, hundreds of political opponents were killed and tortured and nearly a third of the country's population of 300,000 went into exile. Ties with Spain were also severed.

But since 1981, Spain's exports have dropped to around \$6 million and the government has replaced an originally open-handed aid policy with a more rigidly controlled programme directed specifically at health, education and defence.

Equatorial Guinea's once thriving export economy of cocoa, timber and coffee was reduced to ruins by the Macias regime, but Spanish officials blame the lack of an effective economic programme for its painfully slow recovery.

Production of cocoa, the tiny state's most important export, still stands at only around 6,000 tonnes a year after plummeting from 40,000 tonnes at the time of its independence.

Guinea's exports to Spain in 1983 stood at \$13 million out of an annual export capacity of \$18 million.

Spain's aid programme to its former colony cost one billion pesetas (\$6.4 million) last year after being fixed at 1.6 billion (\$10.3 million) originally.

A 1984 aid figure of 2.3 billion pesetas (\$14.8 million) has still to be approved by the cabinet and could be halved. Some officials are reluctant to grant more aid unless Equatorial Guinea takes drastic steps to improve its economy. "We have reached the limit," one Spanish official said.

Spain welcomes the former colony's entry into the French-backed Central African Economic and Customs Union (UDEAC), which also includes Cameroon, Gabon, Congo and the Central African Republic.

"We believe that, if our co-operation is to help Equatorial Guinea to achieve its economic independence, then the only way this can happen is through its sub-regional integration and links with its neighbours," Mr. Bermudez de Castro said.

The move stemmed not from any desire by Guinea to downgrade links with Spain and seek closer ties with France but followed proposals for co-operation in the sub-Saharan region at recent meetings of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), he said.

President Obiang played down the political aspects of UDEAC membership in an interview with a Spanish newspaper.

"I have always said that Equatorial Guinea cannot develop outside of relations with Spain, because of the cultural identity they share," he told the influential daily "El Pais".

"The economic problems should not be confused with the issue of cultural identity," Mr. Obiang added. But he criticised what he said was Spain's attempt unilaterally to control Guinea's aid.

Mr. Bermudez de Castro said Spain had never attempted to regulate Guinea's economy and had never intervened with troops in the independent former colony, even during the 1979 coup.

"We didn't want a neo-colonial operation," he said. But Spain was accused of meddling last year in a row over a Guinea coup plotter condemned to death which brought political links to their lowest level since Mr. Macias and required the intervention of Spanish Foreign Min-

ister Fernando Moran.

Mr. Moran flew to Guinea's island capital Malabo and obtained a guarantee of clemency for Sergeant Venancio Mico, who had taken refuge in the Spanish embassy. Two other plotters were shot.

The row subsided after President Obiang later met Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez in Madrid.

Guinean opposition groups in Spain say Mr. Obiang has made little progress in eradicating corruption and nepotism from his government or in introducing a democratic political system.

"Equatorial Guinea has no institutions, only individuals," Miguel Eson of the National Alliance for the Restoration of Democracy told Reuters. "There are personal interests rather than government interests or ideological tendencies."

Opponents say last year's elections for a national assembly were a sham, with candidates hand-picked by the president. Spanish officials admit that tribalism is a powerful factor in Guinean politics, but say progress will be made only when Equatorial Guinea begins to recover from its economic plight.

One major obstacle is the country's \$141-million external debt, of which 43 million is owed to Spain.

At a meeting in December, Spain agreed to re-negotiate part of the debt provided the former colony accepted an International Monetary Fund programme to re-build the economy.

Officials hope Guinea's economic plight will improve as it becomes fully integrated into the financial institutions of the UDEAC, whose members — with nine other West and Central African nations — share a single currency pegged to the French franc.

India's sectarian riots reflect socio-economic friction under crisis

By Dev Varam Reuter

BOMBAY — Green and saffron flags fluttering over southwestern India's riot-hit textile towns symbolise the fears and fresh actions behind the Hindu-Muslim clashes that have so far claimed more than 200 lives.

"Communal violence is often provoked by economic factors such as job competition and political rivalries. Religion gives a justification and a cause to popular feelings," a prominent Muslim politician told Reuters.

Rafique Zakaria, a member of the national parliament and prominent supporter of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's ruling Congress (I) Party, said uncontrolled population growth and endemic crime provided a fertile breeding ground for religious feuding.

Unrest flared on May 18 in the industrial town of Bhiwandi north of Bombay when Muslims hoisted a green flag, representing their Islamic faith, outside the office of a militant Hindu group called Shiv Sena. Saffron flags indicate the Hindu faith.

In another apparently related incident Muslim leaders in Phantani, about 300 kilometres east of Bombay, were said to place a circle of shoes around the portrait of Shiv Sena leader Bal Thackeray, who is on record as having said that Muslims are fanatics who place religion above their sense of nation.

To point shoes or expose the soles of feet is considered insulting by Muslims.

In Bombay, Bhiwandi and other areas of Maharashtra state, mobs armed with makeshift swords, clubs, iron bars, bottles of acid and stones fought pitched battles. Some 67,000 people were forced to flee their burned-out homes.

As the capital of Maharashtra and India's commercial centre, Bombay is a city of both immense wealth and poverty.

In 1971 it had a population of 5.9 million. Now it has an estimated nine million residents — about one million are Muslims — and a third of the population live in crowded huts of wood and corrugated iron packed tightly together in apparently endless and constantly expanding ghettos.

"The struggle for survival is fierce and politicians use religion to whip up support for the respective parties or policies," said one resident who did not want to be named.

"Religion provides a sense of identity."

Hindus and Muslims here have blamed each other for starting the wave of sectarian killings.

Mr. Thackeray's Shiv Sena — "Sena" means army or military — advocates the concept of "Hindu rashtra" or nation of Hindus. His speeches have been deeply resented by local Muslim leaders. At a recent hockey match aga-

inst neighbouring Pakistan, a country that has fought India three times since both nations gained their independence in 1947, Muslim spectators cheered the Pakistanis because they were Muslims.

"Those who hurt crackers when Pakistan wins a game of hockey or cricket against India should get lost," Mr. Thackeray said in a recent newspaper interview.

Mr. Thackeray told Reuters: "How they (Muslims) are forcing Hindus to be fanatics. Muslims should be Indians first and Muslims second."

He said in an interview that weapons used by Muslims in the clashes were smuggled in from a foreign country, an apparent reference to Pakistan.

Indian leaders have repeatedly charged that unrest in the northern border states of Punjab and Kashmir involves what they call a "foreign hand."

G.M. Banatwalla, a parliamentarian and general secretary of the militant Indian Union Muslim League, told Reuters: "Thackeray made derogatory remarks against the Prophet Mohammed and Muslims in general." The Muslim leader did not elaborate.

Underlying the communal suspicion is a widespread but seldom openly expressed fear among Maharashtra's indigenous Hindu Maratha population that they will be "swamped" by Muslims.

Muslims form India's second largest group, with more than 70 million people.

In disturbances throughout India — whether in Assam, Punjab or here in Bombay — the sense of being threatened by outsiders is very real," a Congress (I) Party worker who did not want to be named said.

Political analysts said economic rivalry also contributed to the communal clashes. Muslims traditionally made up most of the weavers in Bhiwandi's textile industry.

In the past few years, a parallel Hindu workforce has emerged, made up mostly of weavers from the southern states of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

"There has been competition between these two groups, dividing workers on communal lines when passions are aroused," V.G. Purnali, managing director of the All-India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills, told Reuters.

Clashes between Hindu and Muslim communities are not new in India. In 1970 more than 200 people died in street battles in Bhiwandi.

In the current round of violence, 107 people have died there, with police continuing to recover bodies from the ruins of homes and textile mills. The total death toll in Maharashtra is put at 227.

London regains popularity as tourist attraction

Britain's capital has become increasingly crowded as its popularity as a tourist attraction has grown. Arthur Sandles reports on the problem of a hotelier's dream come true.

LONDON — As the first real hints of spring reach London, the capital's hoteliers have begun looking anxiously at their bookings for the next few weeks. This time the worry is not over whether there will be enough business to go round. The opposite is the case. London is already bursting at the seams. Another bumper tourist year could bring back calls for more new hotels in streets which some local residents feel are already overpopulated with them. Booking a room has been difficult for the last few weeks and the situation is likely to persist for at least a couple of months. The London Tourist Board is talking in terms of a three to five per cent rise in overseas tourism to the U.K. and a 10 to 15 per cent increase in traffic from the U.S.

The board has sent a memo to London hoteliers: "This season the LTB expects pressure on hotel space in May, June and September and hotel members are asked to maintain regular contact regarding availability with the Hotel

Accommodation Service." In other words, if you've got rooms, please tell us, we may be desperate. There are many reasons why the British capital is now so crowded and why it may remain so. Sir Henry Marking, recently-departed chairman of the British Tourist Authority, suggests that the work of the BTA overseas has much to do with it. However, the strength of the dollar, relatively lower air fares, the success of London in attracting overseas conferences, changes in hotel ownerships and the fall-off in the attractions of rival destinations are all parts of the story.

They have combined to raise the prospect of London needing another hotel building surge, similar to that of more than a decade ago. Latest figures for London hotel occupancy suggest that November of last year, hardly the best of months normally, saw the capital's hotels rooms 78 per cent full. Most major cities would be pleased with 60 per cent in that

month. It was the highest November level in the 13 years that the figures have been collated. "During the past year occupancy levels have improved which, combined with the gradual decline in discounting, has meant significant rises in profitability," says U.K. broker Capel Cure Myers. It has been suggested that its clients look to the hotel business again as a source of revenue. If they do, they might find that some of the names in the game have changed. Trusthouse Forte is still the nation's biggest hotelier, but Grand Metropolitan has largely withdrawn from its traditional stamping ground of three- and four-star properties. British Transport Hotels has been broken up and Thorne-EMI has scurried out of a business it did not understand — and often found unpalatable.

In their places have come such operations as Thistle, the Scottish and Newcastle chain, which from an outpost near Kings Cross in London has blossomed in the past couple of years to owning nine fairly central properties; Sarova, a privately-owned group, has sprung from nowhere to have

seven, largely ex-Grandmet properties; and Comfort, formed in 1978, which now has nine London operations. It has been argued that the sudden upheaval in ownership has disturbed long term relationships and that foreign tour operators take time to adjust to dealing with replacements for Grandmet and EMI.

The suggestion is that vacant rooms are still there, but that new owners have yet to settle down to efficient marketing and foreign tour companies have yet to establish a proper buying relationship with them. Not everyone agrees with this view. Utell, the hotels booking agency, suggests that "much of the problem is that foreign tour operators, and particularly Americans, are taking up their full allocations. It is making life very difficult for the individual traveller."

Although the pressure on accommodation in London is pretty general, the worst squeeze is in the middle range. Of course, not everyone agrees with that diagnosis. Mr. George Lehrian, vice-chairman of the London division of the British Hotels, Restaurants

and Catering Association, said it was estimated that "half of the 140,000 hotel beds in London are available for less than £30 (\$43) a night. This is a good indication that the middle and lower end of the market are being well catered for."

To some extent this is the view of Mr. Peter Drucker, marketing director of the fast-growing Sarova. "I don't think there is a shortage but, having said that, we are pretty full at the moment," Mr. Drucker's view is that if growth continues in its present way, the shortage will come in the late '80s.

The last time hoteliers said there was no need for new building was in the late 1960s. The boom in hotel development which followed did indeed temporarily lead to a drop in profitability. The scene soon changed as custom rose and new fire regulations forced some small older properties out of business.

The over-crowding problem is not made easier by the fact that many London hotels are being upgraded, moving them into the five-star and deluxe bracket which traditionally has shown greater stability and greater profitability.

Business travellers and the established monied are not so quickly affected by exchange rate changes or IRA bomb scares as the package tour trade.

The first thing that any new owner of a hotel does these days is to smarten up the place, but many go a great deal further. The most remarkable recent spending has been the £10 million-plus that has gone on the Dorchester as its Middle Eastern owners reached for the peaks for the Park Lane market place.

The resistance of local authorities to building is one of the reasons for the up-grading of hotels. "If you can't build more rooms, or build another hotel, what can you do to improve profits?" says one hotel group. This reluctance on the part of local authorities, whose residents have had enough of losing their street space to Hertz cars and their restaurant places to Venezuelans, is also leading to something of a queue for hotels which may be for sale (which, at the right price, means any of them).

The French chain Novotel even bought Cunard's huge Hamersmith hotel, always regarded by the rest of the business as some-

thing of a white elephant but definitely in the tourist class range which is now proving to be so much in demand.

Given a central government unlikely to give financial aid, and local resistance to hotel planning permissions, it would seem that an upsurge of building in central London is unlikely. Even if it were permitted the costs would be high. Trade estimates put the cost of building of four- or five-star hotel in central London at more than £70,000 a room, excluding the site value.

In traditional calculation terms this would suggest a daily room rate of £70 — very much at the top end of the market. Mass market tourists would expect to pay nearer £35-£50 at most.

Meanwhile, however, a partial solution may be in sight. Another new company, the Edwardian Group, which has six properties at the moment, is now making what it calls a "serious" bid to turn County Hall into a 700-room hotel if and when the Greater London Council, London's local government authority, is abolished — Financial Times news feature.

U.S. trade official sparks row over Japanese car quotas

By Richard Walker

DETROIT — Attacks by U.S. Trade Representative Bill Brock on large bonuses for car company executives have refocused attention on the issue of voluntary restraints on Japanese car exports to the American market. The upper limits on Japanese car exports were negotiated soon after the Reagan administration took office.

The aim was to buy time for the major U.S. companies General Motors, Ford and Chrysler to cope with the motor industry recession that followed the oil price shock of 1979 and caused collective losses of more than \$4 billion in 1980. Lack of greater competition from Japan in both volume and pricing was considered a significant factor in the record \$6.1 billion in profits earned by the "big three" carmakers in 1983, according to Wall Street securities analysts.

The quotas, originally set to expire at the end of last March, were later extended another year and are now due to stay in place until the start of the second quarter of 1985.

The United Auto Workers (UAW) Union and many in Congress have firmly supported restraints on the Japanese companies fearing that U.S. production jobs

could be lost if imports of foreign-made cars are allowed to grow beyond their current figure of around 25 per cent of the U.S. market.

Brock has stirred controversy with his recent calls for an end to the quotas, which he originally helped engineer with pressure on the Japanese after President Reagan was elected in 1981.

The trade ambassador said the car companies had forfeited any consideration for protection from Japanese competition by failing to show restraint in their bonus policy for executives.

General Motors, for example, disclosed that Chairman Roger Smith was awarded nearly \$1.5 million in salaries and bonuses in 1983 as one of 5,800 executives whose bonuses averaged more than \$31,000 each.

"If we continue to run wages and salary up through the roof, then there certainly is no reason to make the American consumer pay higher prices through protection," Mr. Brock said.

The car companies responded quickly that the bonuses were needed if they were to attract and retain key managers.

UAW President Owen Bieber blasted Mr. Brock for advocating a move which he said could cost more than 200,000 U.S. workers their jobs.

Vice President George Bush last week said Mr. Brock's statements did not reflect Mr. Reagan's views and that no decision had been made on whether the quotas would be allowed to expire next year.

The debates surrounding the issue, however, seems to be increasing the mood of confrontation between the car companies, the union and the Reagan administration only a few months before the start of negotiations on a new auto workers wage agreement.

Ford Chairman Philip Caldwell said last week the lifting of the Japanese quotas would "inevitably bring about a fundamental change in the way U.S. auto companies do business."

Mr. Bieber charged that the administration "apparently wants to punish the workers for the excesses of their bosses."

Industry analysts told Reuters they considered the disclosure of the bonuses — a measure required under government securities regulations — a public relations disaster.

They added that the possibility that the Japanese export quotas could be lifted next year might have the effect of promoting job security above large wage increases for workers in this summer's labour negotiations.

Britain no longer adheres to European air fares

By Malcolm Davidson

LONDON — British moves to open a chink in the armour of regulations protecting Europe's airlines by introducing a whiff of U.S.-style deregulation were initially greeted by European transport ministers with horrified silence.

Their reaction was characteristic of a majority view in the European Council that a campaign to sweep away price-fixing arrangements that have long kept fares sky-high could bring great problems. The ministers were caught by surprise in Brussels this month when British Transport Minister Nicholas Ridley announced that London had unilaterally decided airlines no longer needed to consult each other over air fares on routes to and from Britain.

Since then European operators and the governments that own them in many cases have said they do not oppose all moves to loosen controls but are dead set against an open-market policy that would lead to unfettered competition. "France considers that total deregulation raises serious problems for national airlines," said a French Transport Ministry spokeswoman. "But the French stand is to move towards a relaxation of the current rules."

Governments fear that an uncontrolled fare-war in Europe would undermine the profitability of flag airlines and could force them into providing increasing levels of subsidy.

Analysts point to routes such as London-Milan which costs £230 one way compared to £153 for a similar distance between Jakarta and Singapore and £146 between the Australian cities of Canberra and Brisbane.

U.S. travel has always been cheap by European standards, but the main impetus for even lower fares came with President Jimmy Carter's move to deregulate the skies in 1978.

The aim was to intensify competition and hold down the cost of flying. It succeeded with vengeance, but some of the established airlines found themselves in big trouble and others, like Braniff International and Continental Airlines, failed to survive in their original form.

Amid the bloodletting, however, passengers felt the benefit as a host of cut rate, no frills airlines took to the air offering bargain travel.

Few international European flights cost less than 31 cents a mile, according to analysts, while the norm on many U.S. routes is around 21 cents.

In Britain, where the government has already opened up domestic routes to greater competition, fares are coming down. The London-Glasgow route now costs 23 cents a mile.

It is this success that Mr. Ridley wants to extend to the rest of Europe and, indeed, the European Commission has proposed limiting the effect of fare-fixing in Europe and pooling arrangements

under which airlines carve up the total revenue on any route by an agreed amount.

Most of Europe is wary, however, and some operators and governments would like the present controls to remain unchanged.

Critics of the campaign for cheaper fares point out that Europe is very different to America. Landing and fuel costs are very much higher and shorter routes make European flights more expensive. France, Italy and West Germany are usually singled out as the countries least keen on liberalisation.

French government and aviation officials say they favour some relaxation of regulations but not total deregulation.

An Air France spokesman said: "We are for competition, but in an organised way. It cannot be an American-style deregulation. The situation in Europe, with a community of 10 and soon 12 (with the addition of Spain and Portugal), is quite different from that in the United States."

In Bonn, a Transport Ministry spokesman said the government had no interest in keeping fares high. "We do not see ourselves as fare boosters," he said.

But a diplomatic source called the West German state-owned carrier Lufthansa the worst offender in keeping fares high and said whenever the subject of lower air fares was raised with the authorities "there is a very loud silence."

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Roma narrow favourites to lift European Cup trophy

ROME (R) — A growing sense of occasion surrounds Wednesday's European Soccer Cup final between Roma and Liverpool.

It is the game everyone has waited for since the competition began last September and there is cause for optimism that the Olympic stadium here will be the scene of one of the most exciting finals in the 29-year history of the Champions' Cup.

Roma, rightfully, are narrow favourites though they will be well aware no Italian club has lifted the trophy since AC Milan in 1969. Nor will they have forgotten how Juventus disintegrated under pressure against Hamburg in Athens 12 months ago.

But Roma, under the shrewd guidance of Swedish manager Nils Liedholm, are made of sterner stuff as they proved by overcoming a two-goal deficit against Dundee United in the semifinals. Despite their glamorous line-up of Italian and Brazilian World Cup stars, however, Roma are novices in Europe compared with Liverpool, who are seeking their fourth victory.

In the tense early minutes, they will badly miss the calming influence of experienced defender Aldo Maldera, who misses the game through suspension. Liverpool, by contrast, may feel the hostility of the Roman spectators — there will be 50,000 home supporters in the 75,000 crowd — but they certainly will not show it.

The English Champions' sophisticated approach earned them

superb victories in Bilbao, Lisbon and Bucharest in the earlier rounds and they actually appear to prefer playing away from home in European competition.

Liverpool's secret when abroad is brilliantly simple. They smother the opposition in the first 20 minutes by denying them space in midfield and gradually subdue the vociferous home fans.

The match should produce several intriguing personal duels. Most important will be Ubaldo Righetti's clash with Ian Rush.

The Welsh striker, scorer of 49 goals this season and eager to notch his half-century, is the man Roma fear most. His speed and instinct for being in the right place at the right time will be a severe test for the promising 21-year-old Roma sweeper.

Nor will the Liverpool defence relish their date with the Roma attack of Bruno Conti, Roberto 'Bomber' Pruzzo and the rejuvenated World Cup veteran Francesco Graziani.

Conti, who can play wide on either wing, was one of Italy's most influential players in Spain in 1982 and has the pace and skill to upset Liverpool fullbacks Phil Neal and Alan Kennedy.

With two exhilarating front lines and two suspect defences, midfield supremacy will be even more important than usual.

Liverpool's midfield is a combination of the aggression of

Sammy Lee and Craig Johnston, the precocious talents of Ronnie Whelan and the all-round ability of captain Graeme Souness.

Despite Rush's knack for scoring unlikely goals, Souness was Liverpool manager Joe Fagan's player of the season. The result may hinge on the Scot's meeting with Paulo Roberto Falcão.

Souness is one of the hardest men in football and Falcão is likely to feel the full force of a Souness tackle before he has had time to break sweat.

If the Brazilian spends the rest of the night looking over his shoulder to check where Souness is, Roma's midfield may lose much of its usual South American rhythm.

If that happens, Liverpool may well upset the odds yet again.

Amman Bridge Tournament ends

By Takako Nakayama
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Third Amman Bridge Tournament ended Monday evening with the team event being won by a Greek team consisting of Mrs. Spiliopoulou, Mrs. Hadjidakis, Mr. Karlaftis and Mr. Gorgias. The winners had won the Cyprus International Bridge Tournament in February.

Mr. Gorgias said that all participating teams thoroughly enjoyed the tournament and were impressed with the organisation. The Jordan Bridge Association (JBA) who arranged this tournament holds regular competitions with the aim of promoting bridge in Jordan.

Mr. Haddad, secretary of the association said that the founders of the JBA were aware of the large bridge enthusiasts in the country who were enjoying the game at home. The JBA started with about 40 members in 1980, a number that increased rapidly to 100. At present, about 30 pairs gather for JBA weekly matches at the Orto Club on Mondays.



CARRYING THE TORCH — Former world heavyweight boxing champion and Olympic gold medalist Muhammad Ali carried the Olympic Torch for one kilometre in Louisville Sunday. Ali admitted his conditioning was not sharp. (A.P. wirephoto)

Budd melts British hearts with record-breaking run

LONDON (AP) — Zola Budd, waif-like and resilient, has finally melted British hearts in her quest for a place in the nation's Olympic team.

The South African-born teenager captured all the headlines Tuesday in the wake of her record-breaking 1,500 metres win in the United Kingdom Track and Field Championships at Cwmbran, Wales, Monday.

The trail but gritty Budd ran 4 mins 43.99 secs, barefoot and unchallenged, on a wet track with a stiff breeze cutting across the park to break the world junior record for the metric mile.

But, more significantly, she won the applause and admiration of her peers and rivals.

"For her age, she is by far the most efficient machine we have seen in women's middle-distance running," national coach Frank

Dick said Tuesday.

"When did we last see so many people turn out to watch a women's 1,500 metres?" he asked.

An estimated 10,000 people cheered Budd on as she strode to the winning tape 45 metres ahead of an outclassed field.

It was her fourth win in as many races in Britain since arriving from her native South Africa in March — but it was the first time she was exposed to, or responded to, the acclaim of her fellow athletes.

Her fiercest rival for one of three 3,000-metre places in the national team, Jane Furniss, planned a kiss on Budd's cheek as she sat trackside recovering from her record-breaking run. Others shook her hand, meeting the "new girl" for the first time.

And Zola smiled back a "thank you" that won over a television audience of millions who had been

mystified the previous day by her rapid exit from the stadium after a convincing win in the heats.

Sunday's quick, orchestrated departure followed a pattern of three previous runs in Britain.

"I'm afraid it reminded me of some of the animal, perhaps a greyhound, being brought out to perform and then being swiftly put back into its cage," senior British athletics official Sir Arthur Gold told the London evening newspaper, the Standard.

And National team manager Marea Hartman said: "It was better after the final but we've always been such a close gang and it's sad that no-one in the team is getting a chance to know her. I intend to raise this whole problem with the British board."

Budd was more eloquent on the track than off, though.

Said Matt Patterson, long-time training partner of world champion Steve Ovett, after Budd's body-straining effort: "My God, that's running."

National coach Mr. Dick commented: "That strong, sustained attack she launched was better than anything I have seen in such an event."

Record entry for Olympics

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — A record total of 128 countries have so far formally agreed to compete in the Los Angeles Games, organiser Peter Ueberroth told the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Tuesday.

Ueberroth, reporting on the second day of a three-day IOC executive board meeting, said he expected this figure to rise to 130 later. The deadline expires on Saturday.

The previous record number of entries for a Summer Games was 122 countries at Munich in 1972.

A total of 13 nations, led by the Soviet Union, have said they will not send teams to Los Angeles because of fears for the safety of their athletes.

IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch is to fly to Moscow Wednesday in a final effort to persuade the Soviets to change their minds.

Among the entries received so far are 31 from Africa — also a record — which indicated the African teams were not contemplating a boycott in response to the current English rugby union tour of South Africa.

The IOC executive board was due to discuss with the various sports federations technical modifications to the games schedule made necessary by the boycott.

Sports commissioners appointed by the Los Angeles Organising Committee were liaising with the federations.

Ueberroth stressed there was no question of having to alter the basic structure of the games programme.

Among the necessary changes will be the revision of draws for

the team events in the absence of the boycotting countries.

Details of the revised draws can only be completed after Saturday's deadline for entries when it is finally clear which gaps have to be filled.

The International Football Federation (FIFA) is expected to meet on Monday to select replacements for Czechoslovakia, the 1980 Olympic Champions, the Soviet Union and East Germany in the 16-team soccer final.

In Seoul, a government spokesman said South Korea had proposed a fourth round of talks with North Korea on Friday to form a joint team for the Olympics.

The first three rounds of talks between the two sides made no progress.

The third meeting last week was held amid speculation that the north might join the Olympic boycott.

Samaranch will take with him a letter to Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko which is believed to contain new proposals aimed at placating Soviet fears about security.

Speaking at an informal press conference Monday night, Ueberroth said he was aware of the contents of the letter. Asked whether any new proposals were based on his own negotiations with the U.S. State Department, he said:

"It would be inappropriate for me to answer that. It is President Samaranch's letter and that is a question for him to answer."

Samaranch had already said he was not yet willing to disclose the contents of the letter.

Noah in floods

PARIS (R) — Yannick Noah tried to rescue a rainy second day of the French Open Tennis Championships here Tuesday, but even the holder had to bow to the dreary weather in the end.

Noah and Mark Dickson of the U.S. played through the drizzle to 4-4 in the first set and 30-0 to the big American when the umpire announced the match had been interrupted "because of inclement weather."

Thousands of fans, who had gathered just to see their hero at the centre court scene of last year's triumph, had kept up a barrage of whistles when it looked as though the rain would wash out their date with Noah.

But their whistles turned to cheers when Dickson and Noah stepped out to attempt the second match of the day on the centre court, some three hours after Catherine Tanvier had given France a win by beating Lucia Romanov of Romania 6-2, 7-5.

Two other matches had been suspended by rain and all other courts of the Roland Garros stadium were still when Noah and Dickson braved the rain.

The crowd, huddled under umbrellas, settled for the match, but despite cries of "allez Noah" this could never be a gala performance.

The French Open, the first Grand Slam tournament of the year, might be expected to herald the summer — but the drizzle, blackly overcast skies and plumes of breath from the players had a stronger suggestion of winter.

The crowd, however, were happy to cheer every point, especially when Noah, the first man to win the French Open since 1946, broke Dickson's serve to move 2-1 in front.

Sixth seed Noah, apparently untroubled by a stomach muscle strain which has hampered him recently, showed plenty of deft touches at the net and served with no ill effects.

The big American from Tampa, Florida, a quarter-finalist in last year's U.S. Open, broke back to 4-4 and won the first two points of the ninth game before the umpire called it a day.

Noah had taken the initiative, moving forward after the second point, and the crowd's day was over after watching the champion at work for 30 minutes of match-play. The rain fell harder and within an hour the organisers abandoned play.

The Frenchman's coach, Patrice Hagelauer, said Noah had been able to serve normally, no longer needing to hold back as he had in practice for the past few days. The coach said the weather had not bothered Noah.

Tanvier, the day's only winner, said after her game: "It's not normal to be playing in this weather."

The weather, however, was good news for Wimbledon Champion John McEnroe, who had appealed in vain to the organisers Monday for a postponement of his first match to Wednesday, complaining of a muscle strain.

The rain intervened where the organisers refused, and McEnroe will now take on unrated Argentine Horacio de la Pena Wednesday, as he wanted.

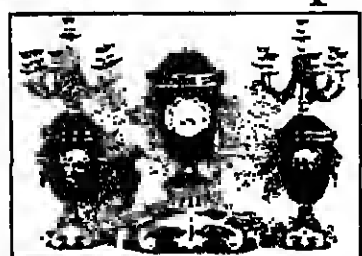
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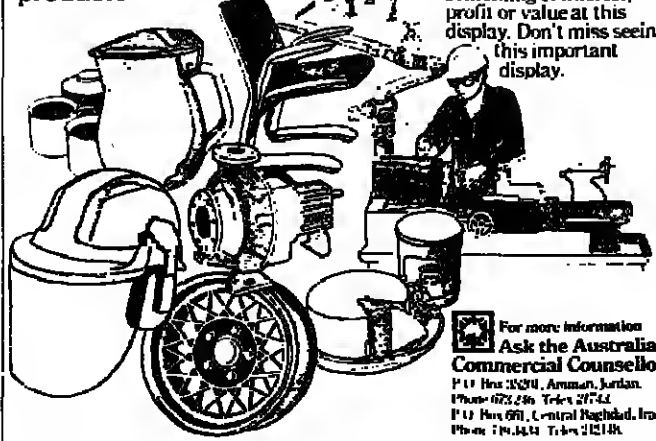
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OPEC Fund aids 82 states

JENNA (OPECNA) — Loans and grants extended by the OPEC Fund for International Development have benefited 82 developing countries, according to the fund's 1983 annual report.

Of the 168 projects and programmes co-financed by the fund, 143 had been completed at the end of 1983, providing "a cross section of productive installations serving the developing world."

In the energy sector, projects include the Kpong dam and power station in Ghana, the Andekaleka project in Madagascar, the Mukyga project in Rwanda and the ulukhuni project in Nepal, all contributing to production in countries with electricity systems in early stages of development.

In the Songo Songo hydropower exploration project in Tanzania, sufficient recoverable reserves have been proved to ensure the field will supply feedstock for a long period.

It said OPEC Fund-financed road projects were completed in 16 African countries, while line-of-credit operations in two countries have encouraged small-scale local activities in industry and agriculture.

Of total commitments of \$162.35 million for project financing in 1983, some \$89.3 million went to the energy sector, \$31.25 million to transportation, \$19.3 million to agriculture and agro-industry, \$19 million to water supply and sewerage schemes and \$3.5 million to education.

In the energy sector, 10 loans were extended to finance various projects: hydroelectric power in Pakistan and Honduras, thermal electric power in Jordan and the Yemen Arab Republic, oil and gas exploration in Madagascar, Tanzania and Papua New Guinea, liquid petroleum gas in Thailand, fuelwood in Benin and geothermal energy in Guatemala.

Projects financed in the transportation sector consisted of the expansion and rehabilitation of Bissau port in Guinea Bissau, modernisation and maintenance of India's railway system and construction and cargo handling at Puerto Castilla, Honduras.

Yen to play bigger world role

TOKYO (R) — A new accord between Japan and the United States is expected to coax the yen out onto the world stage as a major international currency alongside the dollar.

This is the most important desired result from a package of financial and capital liberalisation measures hammered out slowly and sometimes painfully in the six months since President Reagan visited Tokyo.

Details of the agreement, concluded last week in Rome, are to be announced jointly in Washington and Tokyo Wednesday.

Officials at the Japanese finance ministry said the measures would have a far-reaching impact on Japan's money markets although the effects might take some time to be felt.

One official told Reuters: "The package will make clear the future direction for Japanese financial institutions to the extent that our system will be far freer than in Europe."

Foreign businessmen, studying those details leaking out in advance, were more cautious.

Some provisions were long-term and vague, one economist said, adding that it remained to be seen how much benefit foreigners would derive from them.

One aim of the deal is to allow foreign banks and business greater freedom to deal on Japan's rich capital and financial markets. Foreign bankers have long complained that they were hedged in with restrictions.

Government sources said the liberalisation would be achieved in several highly technical ways.

One would ease restrictions on dealings in Euroyen — yen funds held abroad. The effect would depend on how keen foreigners are to use yen for business now over-

whelmingly conducted in dollars.

Finance ministry officials estimated the amount of Euroyen funds now in circulation at less than three per cent of the sums available in dollars.

Another expected step is the creation of a yen-denominated bankers acceptance market. This would make it easier for traders to put up yen, rather than other currencies, to finance imports or exports.

The new rules were expected to allow foreign banks greater latitude in collecting yen funds through the issue of negotiable certificates of deposit on shorter maturity terms.

Other measures will be taken to ease restrictions on Japan's now rigidly controlled interest rate system which keeps rates far lower than international levels generally.

Another rule change will make it easier for foreign banks to participate in trust banking and thus gain access to such capital as pen-

sion funds, government sources said.

A major objective of U.S. negotiators was to make the yen a more sought-after currency in international finance.

U.S. officials hope this will force up the international value of the yen and therefore make Japanese goods less competitive on the world market.

A persistent American theme during the negotiations was that unless steps were taken to reduce Japan's huge trade surpluses, protectionist reprisals against Japanese goods could follow.

Japanese negotiators agreed that liberalisation must come but insisted that it should be at a safe pace.

But Japanese economists are not too worried about the effects of the package on their financial systems. "I believe we will cope successfully with liberalisation," said economist Yuji Shibuya of Nomura Research Inc.

Mixed economic picture faces London summit

LONDON (R) — The world economic picture facing the summit of the seven leading non-communist industrial nations here next week is like the London spring weather — some bright spots but with plenty of threatening dark clouds around.

Only a few weeks ago, as with the weather in most of Europe, optimism abounded as the sun shone, economic recovery was on course, and the summit looked like being dull and routine.

Some of the statistics are encouraging.

Latest predictions are for economic growth of 4.5 per cent this year in the seven, the United States, West Germany, France, Britain, Japan, Canada and Italy, after only two per cent last year.

In the 24 main industrial countries, unemployment, though still high, has levelled off, and inflation is at a 10-year low of about five per cent.

But a crisis of confidence hit stock markets last week due to unsubstantiated rumours about the ability of American banks and worries over Latin American debt.

With markets still jittery, the June 7-9 summit offers a timely opportunity for the seven to discuss intractable economic issues face-to-face and give a political lead.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, British chancellor of the exchequer, says the seven are not coming together to produce platitudes.

Setting out the major European pre-occupations, he said lower interest rates, smaller budget deficits and more predictable exchange rates were essential if poor nations were to share in recovery.

yet he blown off course, if for instance oil prices were to rise significantly due to an interruption of supplies from the Gulf.

Japan, dependent on Gulf oil, wants the summit to consider an emergency oil-sharing system if the Gulf crisis worsens.

Although the United States sees the domestic economic outlook as favourable for President Reagan's re-election and does not want any radical new action on world problems, the other six nations will voice their worries about interest rates.

A further rise in U.S. rates, though quite likely, would add to the repayment burden on Third World debtors and probably force interest rates higher in Europe, perhaps damaging the fragile recoveries in West Germany, Britain and elsewhere.

West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg said Monday U.S. economic policy was casting a long shadow over world recovery and worsening the plight of debtor nations.

The rise of U.S. interest rates, stemming from strong credit demand and a tighter central bank rein on money supply, was causing great concern, he said.

As well as interest rates and the debt crisis, summit topics will also include the instability of exchange rates mainly due to the strength of the dollar and steps to reduce protectionism.

This will be the 10th in the series of annual economic summits which began at Rambouillet in France in 1975.

The records show mixed success for their promises to fight unemployment and inflation and spread prosperity to the poor.

Unemployment will stay high

Since the last London summit in 1977, unemployment in the seven nations has almost doubled from an average of 5.3 per cent to 10.1 per cent.

Latest projections are that 33 million people will still be without jobs in mid-1985 in the 24 nations of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Growth in the seven summit nations declined from an average 3.3 per cent in 1977 to two per cent last year.

Although 4.5 per cent growth is forecast this year, it is concentrated disproportionately in North America and Japan.

In the four top nations of Western Europe — West Germany, France, Britain and Italy — an expected speedup of growth next year to 2.3 per cent would still leave them below the 2.5 per cent average of the 1970s and would not be enough to bring down unemployment significantly, economists say.

Inflation is the main bright spot, having fallen from an average of 11 per cent in the seven nations in 1977 to 5.9 per cent.

World trade is also looking healthier, and is likely to be up five or six per cent this year following a two per cent rise last year after two years of decline.

As in previous years, the summit leaders are being urged in some quarters to take positive action to stimulate investment and get faster growth, perhaps by agreeing to a co-ordinated increase in demand.

But British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the summit host, stuck to her familiar line last week, telling parliament reflation would create a new round of inflation and recession.

However, there could be some agreement on greater co-ordination of policy to prevent currencies being singled out for pressure under the floating exchange-rate system.

Although the United States wants an uncontroversial summit that would be good television, it seems likely to face some sharp criticism on its over-spending, which has pushed up the federal

budget deficit to around \$200 billion.

The Americans deny that their budget deficit is the root cause of the world's economic ills, but the other six and many economists see the clash of public and private demand for credit in the U.S. as the main source of pressure on interest rates.

The rise of the U.S. prime rate to 12 1/2 per cent has led to bitter criticism from Latin American leaders and will make the debt problem a major summit issue.

If the South Americans stopped paying, it would shake the world's banking system.

The seven will have to decide whether to encourage recent suggestions of a ceiling or long-term rescheduling for Latin American debt payments or settle for a continuation of the present case-by-case approach, as the U.S. advocates.

Although Congress is moving towards approval of a package to reduce the budget deficit by \$140 billion over three years to 1987, the other six may urge President Reagan to take immediate action to cut the deficit this year to reassure financial markets.

Dollar confounds experts

Higher U.S. interest rates than elsewhere have contributed to the strength of the dollar.

Although it fell sharply for a time last week due to the bank rumours, the currency has foundered the experts by staying strong all year as money has flowed into the U.S., helping to finance the government's budget deficit and sending Washington's trade deficit soaring.

Although the American recovery and strong dollar provide huge export opportunities in the U.S. and an overvalued dollar reduces American competition in other markets, the six would like to see the dollar ease gradually, reducing the pressure on their own currencies.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares closed mixed in thin trading after the long weekend having moved up at the outset reacting to last week's steep fall, dealers said. At 1500 hours the F.T. 30 index was up 0.8 at 828.7 while the F.T.-S.E. 100 was up 3.2 at 1058.7.

Allied Lyons rose 5p to 163. Courtaulds ended 4p to 133 and Inchcape fell 5p to 346 all after results. Among the leaders ICI ended 2p off at 546. Unilever firmed 10p to 875. Glaxo was up 3p at 813 after 815 and Tate and Lyle added 5p to 368.

Government bonds moved off the day's best levels in reaction to the lower opening in U.S. credit markets to show met gains of up to 1/4 point. Golds and North Americans ended higher.

GEC reversed an opening 2p gain at 166 on market rumours it may counter Thorn EMI's merger approach for British Aerospace which rose 15p to 336. Hambro Life firmed 15p to 373 on speculation its planned merger with Charterhouse J. Rothschild may not take place. Charterhouse ended 4p down at 88 after 94.

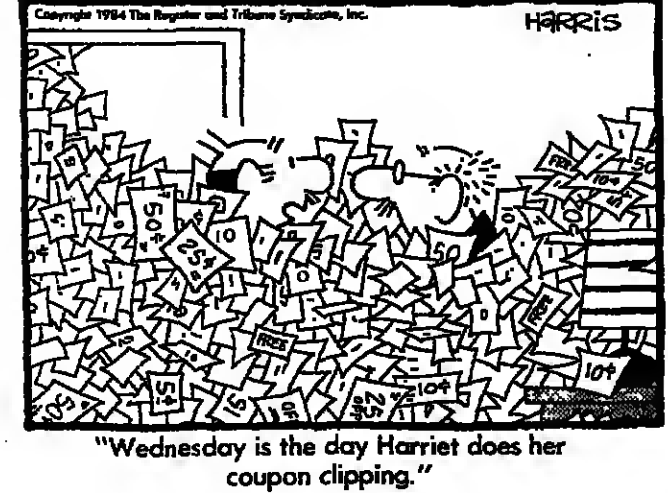
Banks were firm with Barclays up 8p to 467 and insurances ended little changed after a firmer opening. Computer issues eased as much as 60p as in Applied Computer at 580 on press comment that demand for home computers in the U.S. has dropped. Oils ended off best levels and government bonds eased 1/4 point after hours on the higher than expected April U.K. trade deficit.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling:	1.3813/23	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2952/55	Canadian dollars
	2.7370/80	West German marks
	3.0855/65	Dutch guilders
	2.2585/95	Swiss francs
	55.82/85	Belgian francs
	8.4200/30	French francs
	1691.00/1692.00	Italian lire
	231.97/232.07	Japanese yen
	8.0790/0840	Swedish crowns
	7.8075/8125	Norwegian crowns
	10.0435/85	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	385.60/386.10	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TYTID
FOTOA
BLUEBB
CATLEK

WHAT A GIRL WHO WANTS TO BE MARRIED HAS TO KNOW HOW TO DO.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

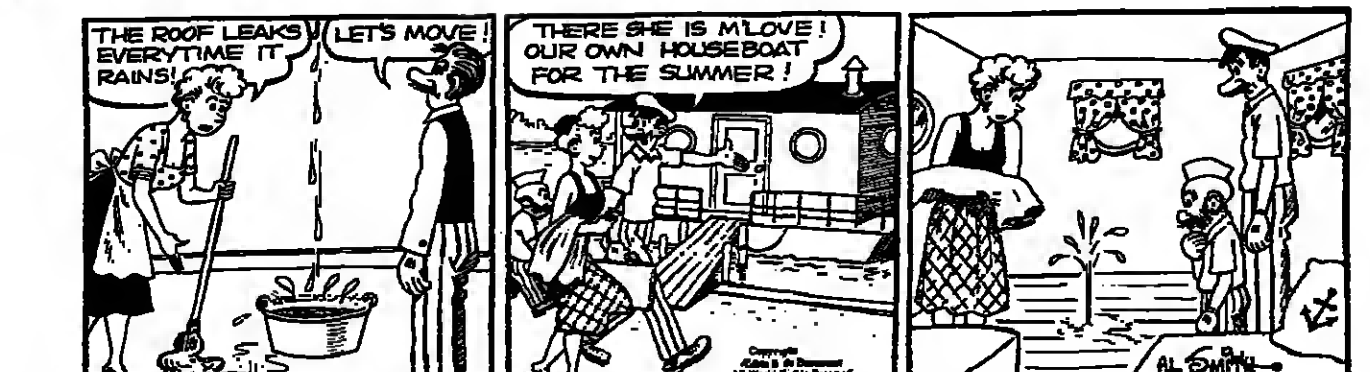
Print answer here: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: KETCH VISTA EYELET FUNGUS
Answer: "Can you get my from a skunk?" — "IF YOU'RE LUCKY!"

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Prague, Iran sign oil deal

VIENNA (R) — Czechoslovakia has agreed to buy 900,000 tonnes (about 6.57 million barrels) of Iranian oil this year, according to the Iranian news agency monitored in Vienna. The deal comes at a time when the Soviet Union has indicated it will not increase oil supplies to its East European allies and when Soviet oil prices, traditionally below Western levels under the pricing formula agreed by the communist trade bloc Comecon, have reached world market levels. Another motive for Czechoslovakia in buying Iranian oil is to improve its export chances on the Iranian market, diplomats contacted in Prague by telephone said. The Iranian news agency IRNA said that Czechoslovak Fuel and Power Minister Vlastimil Ehrenberger, now visiting Tehran, had signed an agreement to import the oil with Iranian Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi. No price for the oil was given.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A new moon day when all sorts of activity can be in operation and you would certainly be wise to get involved in a many new interests and activities as possible.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Find out what others expect of you in the morning and put personal matters aside. Arrive on time for any appointments.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Pay more attention to matters of having more security in the future. Make sure to pay any debts.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You may feel tired in the morning but later your energies are quickly restored and you can carry through with plans you have in mind.

MDON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Early get rid of that feeling of frustration and then you will find the manner that is best for making real progress.

LED (July 22 to Aug. 21) A personal aim may seem difficult to gain, but if you concentrate on it, it can be yours with persistence. See old friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You may feel resentful about how some career matter is working out early but later you find the solution to the problem and all is fine.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) After breakfast, you feel listless but shortly after some new interest turns up and you are rarin' to go.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study any reports for errors and correct them, then you can get into new activities that can make the future brighter.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your partners may be restless, but you have to concentrate on gaining their attention.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Work could begin in a negative fashion, but as the day wears on you get more enthused and all straightens itself out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't go in for extravagant amusement since later you will find more economical and wholesome ways of having fun.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You feel kin do not comprehend your desires in the morning, but then later they take more interest and all will be fine.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who is apt to be quite nervous during childhood but still be able to carry through with plans made, so don't be worried since the power to reason is good here and will know what is the best course to follow.

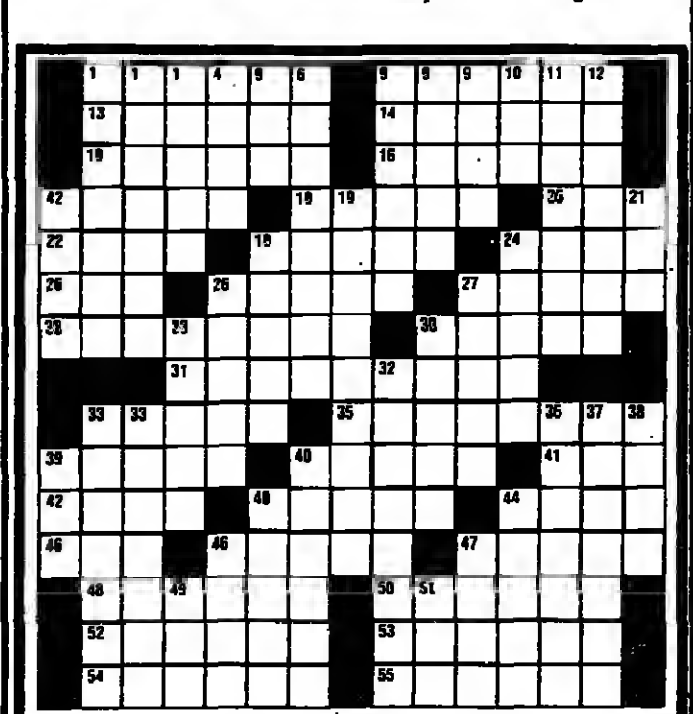
"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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THE Daily Crossword

by Wilson McBeath

ACROSS	25 Consumed	45 — Baba	19 Literary
1 — Way	26 Harbors	46 Theater	collection
7 — power	27 Musician	awards	21 Go astray
13 In abundance	28 Bell-shaped	47 Founder of	23 Short
14 Psa family	29 flower	a Turkish	story
15 Working monotonously	30 John L.	dynasty	24 Plastic
16 Key-note	31 Lewis at	48 Agreement	26 Western
17 Rio de la —	one time	50 Highlander's	Indian
18 Australian saddle	32 Power	52 Mire	27 Fibers used
19 Broad comedy	33 Sew loosely	53 Waning	for cordage
20 Thra in Roma	34 Writing	54 Machine for	29 Portland's
21 Twitchings	35 paper of	loosening	day
22 Strobiles	36 Broad	hay	30 Power
23 — dire (legal term)	37 horse	55 Cruel	32 Checked
	38 comedy	marqua	again
	39 Berberians	40 Mouths: Lat.	33 Stability
	41 Voice	42 Engender	for ships
	43 Ahab's father	44 Ahab's father	34 Magazine
			piece
			35 Order
			36 Place in
			proper
			order
			37 Discomfort
			38 Air safety
			agcy.
			40 Sex
			43 Comic
			Victor
			44 Ancient
			port of
			Rome
			46 Nobel
			priza
			chemist
			47 Globes
			48 Ruminant
			item
			51 Fortas or
			Vigoda



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NATO foreign ministers to talk East-West freeze

WASHINGTON (R) — Atlantic alliance foreign ministers will discuss prospects for a more constructive East-West relationship at a three-day meeting opening Tuesday despite icy statements issued recently by the Soviet Union

Officials say the meeting has been arranged to display the maximum amount of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) unity under the leadership of President Reagan. A solemn "declaration of Washington" will be issued on Thursday setting guidelines for future ties with Moscow and its allies.

But the NATO session may be overshadowed by concern over the mounting number of attacks on Gulf shipping in the Iran-Iraq war, threatening to cut off Western oil supplies.

A behind-the-scenes dispute between West Germany and the United States on the wording of the final declaration may also cut into a lengthy informal session which the ministers are due to hold at a secluded plantation outside Washington from Tuesday night.

Officials said Bonn was pressing for the text to include laudatory references to the 1970's era of East-West détente, a period regarded unfavourably by the Reagan administration.

The Reagan administration believes détente was exploited by the Soviet Union to expand its power in the Third World and lull the West into reducing its defence efforts.

The West Germans say détente lowered tensions in Europe, promoted beneficial East-West trade and eased human contacts between East and West Germans.

Senior NATO sources said U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz had written to West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, insisting that the ministers' time should not be wasted on re-drafting the declaration.

But the differences persisted at a meeting of senior alliance officials which was meant to finalise the draft Monday, the sources said.

The ministers will discuss a host of recent signs that the Kremlin has hardened its attitude towards the West, summed up in an anti-American blast made by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to Mr. Genscher in Moscow last week.

Other signs of Soviet anger include the decision to boycott the Los Angeles Olympic Games, the announcement of new missile deployments in Eastern Europe and repeated refusals to return to nuclear arms talks with the United States.

The Soviet Union has also spurned Western concern about the fate of dissident physicist Andrei Sakharov, reported to have begun a hunger strike on May 2 to demand that his wife, Yelena Bonner, be allowed to travel abroad for medical care.

NATO officials said there would be no new initiatives on arms control at this meeting since most allies believed Moscow had no intention of returning to nuclear talks until after November's U.S. presidential election.

They said ministers were hoping for a report from Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek on his cabinet's discussion of the deployment of 48 U.S. cruise nuclear missiles under NATO plans to counter Soviet SS-20 missiles.

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Carrington says door to dialogue stays open

Meanwhile NATO Secretary-General designate Lord Carrington said Monday the door to dialogue with the Soviet Union was open and would remain so.

In a message published by the London Times, newspapers he also said the Western allies would never use any weapons except in response to attack.

"We do not seek to deny to others the security we want for ourselves. The door to dialogue and negotiation is open and will remain so," Lord Carrington said.

The North Atlantic alliance faced new challenges and would have to adapt to new circumstances, but its strength depended on the shared commitment of its member states, he added.

The 64-year-old former British foreign secretary will take over his new post from Mr. Joseph Luns next month.

U.S. policy threat to recovery

West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg said Monday U.S. economic policy was casting a "long shadow" over world recovery and worsening the tense situation facing debt-ridden countries.

He made the rare Bonn attack on U.S. policy in a speech to businessmen in Munich as the seven, top non-communist industrial nations — the U.S., Canada, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Japan — made final preparations for an economic summit in London from June 7 to 9.

Although West Germany, Europe's most powerful economy, had been able to cope with the dramatic rise in U.S. interest rates so far, they were a cause of great concern, he said.



The exterior of the 14-story Time Hotel in downtown Taipei where a fire Monday killed 19 people, including an Indian businessman, in what the authorities said was the worst fire in 15 years in Taiwan (AP wirephoto)

Police detain Taipei restaurant manager

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Police said Tuesday they have detained a restaurant manager for questioning in connection with a hotel fire that killed 19 people and injured 53 others. Firemen described the blaze as the worst since 1966.

Police identified the man as Yu Chang, 44, manager of a restaurant on the second floor of the 14-story Time Hotel in downtown Taipei.

The fire broke out Monday morning in the restaurant, and dense smoke billowed to upper floors, where some panic-stricken guests jumped from their windows.

The victims included an Indian businessman, Mr. Abbas Ali, 34, and a visitor from Hong Kong, Mr. Wong Kan-Ming, 66. Police said they died as a result of smoke inhalation but gave no other details.

A police spokesman said initial investigations showed the fire probably was caused by electric short circuit resulting from a leaking roof in the restaurant but Mr. Yu told police that he had informed the hotel management about the leaks more than two weeks ago. Mr. Yu said he received no response from the management.

In 1966, a blaze at a Taipei theatre killed 28 people.

Kreisky, Senghor get 1982-83 Nehru awards

NEW DELHI (R) — Leopold Sedar Senghor, former president of Senegal, and former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky on Monday were named the 1982 and 1983 winners of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for international understanding.

The award is given annually for "outstanding contributions to the promotion of international understanding, goodwill and friendship among the people of the world."

No explanation was given for the delay in announcing the 1982 award.

The award, which carries a cash prize of 250,000 rupees, (\$ 25,000), is named after India's first prime minister, who served from independence in 1947 to his death in 1964.

Mr. Senghor, who recently became the first black member of the Academie Française, was educated in Senegal and France. He taught in France and is recognised as an authority on classical languages and French grammar.

In announcing the Awards, Indian Vice President M. Hidayatullah called Senghor "a man of great vision and humanism, whose life and writings are a shining example of his constant endeavour to promote the idea of racial harmony, national liberation and progress, universal brotherhood and international understanding."

The vice president said Mr. Kreisky's initiatives on the Middle East and North-South economic issues and his anti-colonialist stand.

Mr. Senghor, whose scholarly works have been translated into more than 20 languages, also is an internationally-known poet, whose verses "reflect the African personality and its hopes, aspirations and travails in changing social conditions," the government statement said.

As Senegal's president from 1960-80, he "laid the foundation for the stable, democratic and humane government which the country continues to enjoy," it said.

It noted that Mr. Kreisky had helped organise several conferences on development and the North-South economic summit at Cancun, Mexico in 1981.

It also said Mr. Kreisky rejected the "concepts of 'politics of strength'" and had spoken out against the deployment of U.S. cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in western Europe.

isky has left "an indelible impact on the international political scene during the last quarter of a century, not only in Europe but the world at large."

Mr. Kreisky has shown "great political foresight, wisdom and vision" in trying to bring peace to the Middle East and resolve economic disparities between rich and poor nations, a government statement said.

Mr. Hidayatullah cited Mr. Kreisky's initiatives on the Middle East and North-South economic issues and his anti-colonialist stand.

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China outlaws corporal punishment in school

PEKING (R) — China's Education Ministry has ordered an end to corporal punishment in schools, a Peking newspaper said Tuesday.

The Guangming daily quoted a ministry report saying that physical discipline "must be used to turn innocent, fur-loving, curious children into little yes-men." Such punishment soured relations between teachers and students and encouraged rote shyness, the report added.

Chinese sources said that until recently mild corporal punishment has been generally tolerated in schools. Newspaper occasionally report incidents of teachers severely injuring wayward pupils.

Trial date set in 'Hitler diaries' forgery case

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — The trial of two men accused of fraud in the "Hitler diaries" forgery swindle will open in Hamburg on Aug. 21, a lawyer for one of the defendants said Tuesday.

Kurt Groenewold, lawyer for Nazi memorabilia dealer and co-fessed forger Konrad Kuja named the date in a statement. Mr. Kuja is charged with forging the Nazi leader's "diaries" and selling them to Gerd Heidemann, former reporter for the West German magazine Stern, who also accused of fraud.

A Hamburg court last Wednesday ruled that they must stand trial for fraud. Stern paid nine million marks (\$3.2 million) for the papers. Britain's Sunday Times newspaper also bought rights.

Airhostess found dead on Greek island

HDRA, Greece (AP) — The body of a Dutch airhostess was found over the weekend outside a church on this Greek holiday island, a police spokesman said Monday.

He said the woman, identified as Evelyn Janfrick, 33, (no hometown available) was found lying on the steps of the Saint Dimitrios Church by a local priest last Saturday. According to the spokesman, police discovered three empty bottles of wine and beer and a box of anti-depressant pills scattered on the ground near Ms Janfrick's body. He said Ms Janfrick, who worked for Holland's national carrier KLM, arrived for a holiday on the Aegean island earlier this month.

Doctors use harmless bacteria to fight disease

NEW YORK (AP) — Pinin good germs against bad germs: doctors can ward off some serious infections in newborn babies by giving them harmless bacteria that compete against dangerous microbes. A researcher from Columbia University said Monday that she had used bacteria normally found in the throat to establish a healthy balance between microbes and prevent the runaway growth of germs that ordinarily stay in the background. Inside everyone's body there is a kind of microscopic botanical garden where growths helpful and harmful compete for a niche in which to live.

Researchers develop food crops that thrive on salt water

NEW YORK (AP) — Researchers have discovered crop that thrive on salt water and yield at least as much food as conventional crops. An Arizona scientist reports. Development of such salt-resistant crops "present a fantastic opportunity" for the cultivation of deserts and marginally acceptable crop land, said Mr. James O'Leary, associate director of the Environmental Research Laboratory at the University of Arizona. Mr. O'Leary noted that plants able to grow on salt water — known to biologists as halophytes — are found naturally all over the world, especially in temperate and tropical climates. One of the crops, called salicornia, produces oil high in polyunsaturates at a higher yield than soybeans, the world's principal source of vegetable oil, he said.

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Kohl, Mitterrand call for greater European unity

PARIS (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and French President Francois Mitterrand agreed on the need for greater political unity in the European Community and more bilateral co-operation on technological and military projects, diplomatic sources said, as the two men entered the second day of their summit here.

Mr. Mitterrand's speech to the European Parliament in Strasbourg last week calling for broader political co-operation was greeted by Mr. Kohl as an "inspiration for Europe". West German government spokesman Peter Boenisch told journalists here.

In a statement released to the press, Mr. Kohl said that "the future of Europe lies in its political unity," adding that Europeans needed to speak with one voice if they wanted to be heard beyond their own continent.

French diplomatic sources said there was agreement on the urgent need to find a solution to the dispute over British contributions to the European Community's budget, which has been delaying decisions on the wider financial reform of the 10-nation group.

Both leaders felt that the onus was on Britain to make the first move towards a settlement, they said.

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Gromyko, Hayden discuss U.S.-Soviet relations

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko discussed U.S.-Soviet relations without hostility or rancour with Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden Monday, Mr. Hayden said.

In talks lasting nearly three hours, Mr. Gromyko reiterated Moscow's refusal to return to nuclear arms control talks until new U.S. cruise and Pershing missiles are removed from western Europe, Mr. Hayden told reporters.

Mr. Gromyko strongly criticised many aspects of U.S. policy but did so in a cool and reasoned way, Mr. Hayden said.

"There was no shrillness," he added. "There was no hostility, no declarations and no rancour."

Mr. Gromyko shocked West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher last week with the vehemence of his attacks on the United States, diplomatic sources said.

Mr. Hayden said there was no sign of such anger Monday, but added that he would not conclude that there had been any change in Soviet positions.

He added that he saw no evidence that Mr. Gromyko shared the views of a Soviet political commentator who declared at the weekend that U.S.-Soviet relations were at their lowest level since World War Two.

Protestant leaders to boycott Reagan visit

BELFAST (R) — The leaders of Northern Ireland's main Protestant parties said they will refuse an invitation to meet President Reagan during his visit to Dublin next weekend.

The Reverend Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, and official Unionist leader James Molyneux, both pro-British hardliners pledged to resist Irish unity, said Monday they had rejected invitations to attend Mr. Reagan's address to a joint session of the two houses of the Irish Parliament.

The president is due to arrive on a three-day visit to the Irish Republic on Friday.

Rev. Paisley said it was "the height of hypocrisy" for Irish Prime Minister Dr. Garret Fitzgerald to pretend that normal relations existed with Northern Ireland by inviting them.

"The republic's leaders must learn that the real unionists in Ulster will not be bought by free dinners and free wine, even if the guest of honour is the president of the United States."

Salvadorean guerrillas relax terms for talks

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Leftist guerrillas, responding to improved conditions for dialogue, have apparently softened terms on which they are prepared to negotiate with the U.S.-backed government here, political sources said.

But talks on ending four years of civil war still faced deeply-rooted obstacles, the sources said Monday.

Guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), the rebel umbrella organisation, have said they are prepared to talk to newly-elected President Jose Napoleon Duarte "without preconditions" and made no mention of power-sharing in a new government prior to elections.

Mr. Duarte, who heads the moderate Christian Democrat Party and was elected president in a May 6 poll, has said he will never negotiate power-sharing with the rebels or talk while rifles are on the table.

He has promised to remove the causes of El Salvador's deep-rooted economic, political and social problems and thus deprive guerrillas of the political ammunition they need to maintain the support of the impoverished mass of the population.

Guerrillas said they refused to take part in the elections fearing assassination at the hands of right-wing death squads if they came out into the open to campaign.

Mondale, Hart even in California opinion polls

LOS ANGELES (R) — Democratic presidential contenders Walter Mondale and Gary Hart are running almost even in the campaign for California, the biggest single primary election prize, according to an opinion poll published Monday.

Political experts said this could mean trouble for Sen. Hart, whose advisers have said he needs to win the state if he is to persuade the Democratic presidential convention in San Francisco in July that he has a better chance than Mr. Mondale of beating President Reagan, the Republican candidate.

California, which sends 345 delegates to the convention, votes on June 5.

In the Los Angeles Times poll, conducted among 2,031 people between May 19 and 24, Sen. Hart was the choice of 29 per cent of Democrats likely to vote. Mr. Mondale of 28 per cent and the third candidate, Rev. Jesse Jackson, was chosen by 11 per cent.

The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points.

According to unofficial estimates, Mr. Mondale has about 1,550 delegate votes towards the 1,967 needed to win the Democratic presidential nomination. Sen. Hart has about 950 and Rev. Jackson 300.

Mr. Reagan would win 50 per cent of the vote and Sen. Hart 45 per cent if the presidential election were held Monday instead of November, the poll predicted. It added the president would defeat Mr. Mondale by 53 per cent to 40 per cent.

Chilean lawyers bring law suit against Pinochet

SANTIAGO (R) — A group of Chilean lawyers Monday brought a law suit against President Augusto Pinochet alleging possible fraud and conflict of interest in the purchase of land for his private country house.

The lawyers said they were also appealing against the decision of an appeals court judge who ruled last Friday that he did not have the constitutional authority to try the president.

The suit against the right-wing president, and an aide-de-camp, concerns plots of land adjoining the president's house at El Melocoton, in a scenic gorge just outside Santiago.

The plots were bought by the state, on the president's decree,

then sold to aide-de-camp Colonel Ramon Castro at a fraction of their original cost. Col. Castro in turn sold them to General Pinochet at a profit.

The president recently donated the land to the army for security reasons, saying that had been his intention all along.

Aquino panel chairman doubts military witness

MANILA (R) — The chairman of a commission probing the murder of Philippine opposition leader Benigno Aquino said Tuesday he found it hard to believe that Mr. Aquino's military escorts did not see the alleged killer.

Air force Sergeant Arnulfo de Mesa testified that as he and another guard escorted Mr. Aquino to a military van last August at the Manila airport, a gunman darted from behind, rested his gun hand on the sergeant's shoulder and fired.

"It is hard to believe," said commission Chairman Corazon Agrava, a retired judge. "It was most unlikely that the gunman was standing there near the aircraft staircase without any one of you seeing him."

Mr. Aquino returned to the Philippines last year after a self-imposed exile in the United States, planning to unite opponents of President Ferdinand Marcos. He was shot dead as he was being escorted from the aircraft.

Serg. De Mesa said that when Aquino and the escorts reached the tarmac he felt a hand holding a gun brush his shoulder.

The sergeant said the gunman fired although he tried to ward off the hand, adding that he had not seen anyone when they reached the tarmac.

Judge Agrava said it was unbelievable that the alleged assassin darted from a distance and none of Mr. Aquino's escorts heard the footsteps.

Commission member Dante Santos, a businessman, said: "How could anyone run from somewhere without being seen by so many soldiers on the tarmac?"

Australia to seek reversal of Papua New Guinea press ban

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — The Australian government wants to open urgent talks with Papua New Guinea officials to try and reverse a ban on journalists of the Australian broadcasting commission, officials said.

The Papua New Guinea government, upset by a network interview with the leader of separatist rebels in the neighbouring Indonesian province of Irian Jaya, Papua New Guinea officials said the reporter violated an agreement not to contact the rebels on its soil.

The ABC is government funded but editorially independent.

The network aired an interview with the leader of separatist rebels in the neighbouring Indonesian province of Irian Jaya, Papua New Guinea officials said the reporter violated an agreement not to contact the rebels on its soil.

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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BARDACH'S BEMUSEMENT

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands that we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series, we will go back to our weekly question and answer column. Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A Q 8 5 4 3
♥ A K J 10 8
♦ J
♣ 2

WEST
♠ 10 7 2
♥ Void
♦ A Q 7 6 4 3
♣ J 10 7 5

EAST
♠ J 9
♥ 9 7 5 4
♦ 9 8 2
♣ K 8 4 3

SOUTH
♠ K 6
♥ Q 6 3 2
♦ K 10 5
♣ A Q 9 6

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 4 NT Pass
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠.

It is written: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." That is especially true at this time of year. So it is appropriate to recall an act of great generosity, even though involuntary, that took place at the First Israel Bridge Festival, back in 1966.

Sitting South was Israeli internationalist David Bardach. His partner was pleasantly surprised to hear him open one heart, and North

wasted no time in getting to slam. After asking for aces, he settled in a small slam on discovering that one was missing.

Those of you who have studied the hand might wonder what all the fuss is about. Even if the opponents lead the ace of diamonds, declarer simply draws trumps when he gains the lead and runs winners to come to 12 tricks. Indeed only one declarer managed to limit himself to 11 tricks — Bardach. We leave you to judge whether he is to be blamed.

Two unknown ladies were sitting East-West. West got off to the lead of the ten of spades, declarer played low from dummy and East produced the jack. Declarer won the king and, to prevent what he considered to be a looming spade ruff, he started to draw trumps.

The 4-0 split didn't perturb him too much — after all, wasn't the hand an open book? West's spade lead was surely from a four-card suit, so declarer won the fourth trump in hand and led the six of spades. When West followed with a deuce, declarer confidently finessed the eight, and a very surprised East won the nine. She recovered quickly enough to return a diamond, and the defenders had their two tricks.

"My only lead was top-of-nothing, dear," cooed West. "Of course, and I had to echo to show my doubleton," replied her partner.

It leaves, mere mortals speechless!

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